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Inter-Arab Affairs

Summary: Arab Reaction to Bush-Gorbachev Summit

JN0406133390

[Editorial Report] Initial reaction to the Bush-Gorbachev summit from sources covered by Jordan Bureau has consisted mainly of factual reports, with some media giving wider coverage and prominence to the event than others. Radio and press comments on the summit were also either low-key or virtually nonexistent, especially in the aftermath of the Rishon Leziyyon incident and the strong Arab reaction to the U.S. veto of the UN Security Council draft resolution to dispatch a fact-finding mission to the Middle East.

Syria

Thus far, there has been no monitored reaction by Syrian officials to the Bush-Gorbachev summit. Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic carried summit reports in almost every newscast and also highlighted reports on the news conference held by Presidents Bush and Gorbachev at the end of their talks in Washington. Reporting the news conference in its 1815 GMT newscast on 3 June, the radio says the two leaders "affirmed their countries' stand on rejecting the settlement of Jewish emigres in the occupied Arab territories. President Gorbachev explained that this matter threatens security and stability in the area. He demanded guarantees not to settle Jews in the occupied West Bank and Gaza. The U.S. President also affirmed that American policy on Israeli settlements is firm and clear. He said: We object to the building of settlements in the West Bank and Gaza." However, Damascus radio also notes that the two presidents still do not see eye to eye on the international conference. Commenting on President Gorbachev's call for the "internationalization" of the Middle East peace process in the speech he made before the U.S. Congress, Damascus radio says: "internationalization or UN supervision of the a Middle East settlement is now out of the question as far as the United States is concerned." The radio also notes that "the U.S. President made no new proposal or initiative to bring about a just peace." In a commentary on 4 June, Damascus radio notes the possibility, voiced by Gorbachev, of halting the emigration of Jews from the USSR if they continue to be settled in the occupied territories. This, says the radio, confirms the pledge made by Gorbachev to President al-Asad in Moscow, and it calls on the United States to support the Soviet position.

In its review of the Syrian press, Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic on 4 June cites TISHRIN newspaper as saying that although discussions on the Middle East were informal and in general terms "Gorbachev was very clear about the formula for a solution to the Middle East crisis. Bush, meanwhile, was far from the essence and causes of the conflict as well as from the real and objective framework for a solution."

Iraq

Baghdad radio reports on the Bush-Gorbachev summit were generally brief and carried toward the end of only some newscasts. No commentaries have so far been monitored. Among the Iraqi papers received so far, only AL-THAWRAH of 1 June published a brief inside-page report on the beginning of the summit talks.

Jordan

There has been no reaction to the summit from Jordanian officials thus far. Amman Domestic Service in Arabic carried factual reports but no comment on it. Gorbachev's remarks on Soviet emigration and "internationalization" of the Middle East peace process were picked up by several columnists in the local press. 'Abd-al-Rahim 'Umar, writing in AL-RA'Y, welcomes President Gorbachev's call for the internationalization of the Middle East peace process, his readiness to cooperate with the United States to guarantee Israel's security, and his assertion that the USSR will not restore relations with Israel unless it withdraws from the occupied Arab territories and recognizes Palestinian rights. The writer calls on Arabs to encourage and reinforce this Soviet stand by following Kuwait's example of investing funds in the Soviet economy. On 4 June, all three Arabic dailies AL-RA'Y, AL-DUSTUR, and SAWT AL-SHA'B report prominently the Bush-Gorbachev news conference on their front pages under the following banner headlines: AL-RA'Y: "Gorbachev Asks Israel To Give Guarantees Not To Settle Emigres in Occupied Territories". AL-DUSTUR: "Gorbachev Threatens To Stop Jewish Emigration If Israel Does Not Guarantee Not To Settle Them in Occupied Territories". SAWT AL-SHA'B: "Gorbachev Threatens To Stop Jewish Immigration; Tel Aviv Asked To Give Guarantees Not To Settle Emigres in Occupied Territories" and "Bush Reiterates Washington's Position Against Building of New Israeli Settlements." The papers also devote their editorials to the news conference. AL-RA'Y considers Gorbachev's statement on emigration as "a genuine expression of human rights" and the U.S. stand as "aggressive and racist" and says the USSR should back its words with actions. AL-DUSTUR says "President Gorbachev's threat to stop or postpone the granting of exit visas to Soviet Jews should prompt Israel and the United States to reconsider their position, which belittles the dangers posed by this emigration to peace prospects in the Middle East." The paper hails President Gorbachev's "brave stand" and urges him to back it up with action. SAWT AL-SHA'B notes that President Gorbachev has not succeeded in his efforts to win U.S. support for the international conference. This position, it says, will not be in the interest of the United States.

PLO

Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic on 3 June cites 'Arafat's statement to TASS and NOVOSTI in which he thanks Gorbachev for the call to "internationalize the entire Middle East process", and for linking the peace

process to the reestablishment of diplomatic ties with Israel, and for referring to the problems created by settling Jewish emigrants in the occupied Arab territories. The statement goes on to say that this Soviet stand "has echoed resoundingly among our Palestinian people and the masses of our Arab nation"

Baghdad voice of the PLO in Arabic has so far not been observed to report or comment on the Bush-Gorbachev summit.

Egypt

As of 2 June Egyptian papers have not been observed to comment editorially on the Bush-Gorbachev summit. However, papers carry news agency reports on the beginning of the Gorbachev-Bush summit. Columnist Nabil Zaki in AL-AKHBAR on 1 June says the United States is exploiting the Soviet Union's weakness to get what it wants from it. Zaki says "the United States is showing intransigence and is insisting on obtaining further Soviet concessions. The purpose is to exploit the USSR's economic difficulties to obtain strategic privileges for Washington and to reach agreements that are more suitable to the United States."

Bahraini, Emirian Papers Criticize U.S. Veto

JN0306182090 Manama WAKH in English 1600 GMT 3 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Manama, June 3 (GNA) The United Emirates newspaper AL-BAYAN today commented editorially on U.S. threat to end dialogue with the PLO, saying in part: Whether America halts this dialogue or not, the result remains the same. The national Arab security will continue to pay the price of our unjustified attempts to deal with the U.S. policy as if it is unlike the Israeli policy.

Such attempts will not give the Arab nation and the Palestinian cause anything except more U.S. attempts to sap our resources and confiscate our rights.

It will be useful now to seriously assess the dialogue which Washington threatens to halt though it has effectively ended it before it started and turned it into a carrot barring Palestinian armed struggle.

The dialogue and even future negotiations which the United States is talking about do not aim to reach a settlement that will end our conflict with Israel but to control the situation in the region and create new conditions that will take the negotiations away from their real goals, including guaranteeing our legitimate rights.

Bahraini daily 'AKHBAR AL-KHALEEJ' today criticized the United States for vetoing the U.N. Security Council resolution, which called for dispatching a fact-finding commission to examine the situaton in the occupied Arab territories.

In its editorial, the paper expressed astonishment over the American Administration when it announced that the U.S. would discontinue its dialogue with the PLO unless...the leader Yasir 'Arafat sanctioned Abu al-'Abbas, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Front for his command operation.

What the use of the dialogue, if America ignores the Palestinian rights and underestimates and challenges the Arab feelings flagrantly, the paper added.

The paper expressed belief that the continuation of the dialogue in view of the American attitude would further harm the Palestinian question, while halting the dialogue would be a positive step. [passage omitted]

Gulf Cooperation Council Meetings Continue

Finance, Economy Committee Meets

LD0306202190 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1818 GMT 3 Jun 90

[Excerpts] Al-Ta'if, 3 June, (SPA)—The GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] Finance and Economy Committee this evening ended its work here under the chairmanship of the secretary general of the conferences committee in the sultanate of Oman and chairman of the current session Ibrahim Humud al-Subhi. Minister of Finance and National Economy Muhammad Aba al-Khayl made a statement to SPA in which he pointed out that the committee has completed the discussion and study of all issues on its agenda. He added that the committee will hold another meeting in three months' time, which will be the final meeting prior to the GCC summit. [passage omitted]

His Excellency Muhammad Aba al-Khayl added that with regard to the negotiations with the European side, the committee has completed the technical aspects of the subject in accordance with the report prepared by the GCC negotiating team. He added that the other aspects will be discussed with the ministerial council, and in the light of this the following steps in the negotiations will be determined, including the guidelines to be given to the GCC negotiating team so that it can continue contacts with the European side accordingly.

Ministerial Council Session Begins

LD0406174790 Kuwait KUNA in English 1323 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Al-Ta'if, June 4 (KUNA)—The Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] started its 35th session this afternoon in the Saudi resort city of al-Ta'if under the chairmanship of Omani State Minister of Foreign Affairs Yusuf Bin al-Alawi 'Abdallah.

In a statement at the outset of the meeting, 'Abdallah said that the Gulf countries believe that peace efforts in the Middle East area "have not been completely exhausted," in what appears to be a determination by the Arab Gulf states to continue the peace process of the Arab-Israeli dispute. "The opportunity is still wide open for enacting peace operations in the region in an attempt to maintain and preserve security and stability in the area," Abdallah emphasized.

The Omani minister, however, expressed concern over the deteriorating situation in the occupied territories, saying that the GCC states "view with increased concern" developments in the occupied Arab lands. He added that the Arab concern was due to the massive emigration of Soviet Jews to the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, describing the emigration as a "hindering step" before efforts to ensure tranquility in the region.

Speaking on the Iran-Iraq dispute, 'Abdallah said that there are "encouraging signs and positive elements" that raise the possibility of reaching a conclusive end to the no-peace no-war situation between the two adversaries. "The messages exchanged between the leaders of Iran and Iraq have paved the way for a new era of confidence building and progress making in the peace negotiations between them," he contended.

On Lebanon, 'Abdallah reiterated that the Al-Ta'if accord on national reconciliation continues to win increased international support and is slowly being implemented despite the existence of "imposed obstacles." He emphasized that the GCC unequivocably supports work of the Arab League-appointed Tripartite Committee on Lebanon until the Lebanese sovereignty is fully restored.

Negotiations With EC To Commence

LD0406215390 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2125 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Riyadh 11.11.1410AW corresponding to 4 Jun 90 (SPA)—The GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] Assistant Secretary General for Economic Affairs Dr. 'Abdallah al-Quwayz has pointed out that the joint meeting which was held by their highnesses and excellencies the foreign and finance and economy ministers of the member-states of the GCC has concentrated on the negotiations between the member-states and the European community on commercial issues in an aim to reach an agreement on free trade between the two groups. In a statement to SPA this evening following his return to Riyadh from al-Ta'if, Dr. al-Quwayz said that the ministers decided during the joint meeting to commence official negotiations with the European Community. He added that the negotiating team has been given the authorization to carry out its tasks in discussing all the technical issues which will be placed at the negotiating table. He pointed out that the joint meeting has accepted the date proposed by the European Community to commence these official negotiations—25 June—and disclosed that at the beginning of September another joint meeting between the ministerial council and the financial and economic cooperation committee will be held to follow up this subject. [passage omitted]

Somalia's Barre Warns of 'External Aggression'

EA0106100590 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1850 GMT 26 May 90

[Excerpts] The secretary general of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party [SRSP] and president of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR], Comrade Mohamed Siad Barre, last night delivered a lengthy speech on the affairs of Somalia, the Middle East, and the world at the extraordinary Arab League Summit in Baghdad, Iraq. [passage omitted].

Turning to Somalia, Comrade Siad Barre, said the country was being subjected to external aggression, which posed a danger to its unity and security. He pointed out that malicious and fabricated propaganda about the country was being spread which was designed to create instability and encourage division, and certain foreign propaganda was continuously misrepresenting the actual situation in the country.

He acknowledged the existence of problems in the country but stated that the Somali Government has initiated reforms in political and economic affairs such as allowing the private ownership of property, the establishement of political parties, and the holding of free elections with the government pledging to transfer the administration to whoever wins the elections.

The president noted the changes being made to the country's Constitution, the government's willingness to hold talks with the opposition, and the amnesty given to people who have committed crimes against the country, and other steps designed to achieve unity and security in the country.

Comrade Siad Barre disclosed that the Somali people are faced with various problems and to surmount these he asked the Arab leaders to give moral and material assistance. [passage omitted]

Palestinian Affairs

Khalid al-Hasan Condemns Sea Operation

JN0406174690 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Palestine National Council [PNC] Speaker Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sa'ih threatened today to call the PNC into session in order to adopt armed struggle if the United States and Israel do not comply with Palestinian peace initiatives.

In the meantime, some Palestinian officials believe that the recent Palestinian operation against Israel was a big mistake. Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan termed the infiltration attempt by a Palestinian group near Tel Aviv an act of madness. The Palestinian official added that what Abu-al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas] did was technically wrong, because the world knows that Israel has said its radar is so powerful that it can detect objects as far as Malta. Khalid al-Hasan is the

first Palestinian official to condemn the Palestinian infiltration attempt on Tel Aviv shores.

Fatah's Khalaf Warns of Israeli Reprisal

JN0506082190 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0655 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] Manama, 5 Jun (WAKH)—Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, also known as Abu-Iyad, has warned of an Israeli military reprisal targeting Libya or Jordan in retaliation for the al-Quds operation carried out by combatants of the Palestine Liberation Front.

In an exclusive statement to the Bahraini newspaper AL-AYYAM published today, Abu-Iyad said that the Israelis are waiting for the expected U.S. move on the PLO to decide on the nature of their retaliation.

Abu-Iyad added: If the United States breaks off dialogue with the PLO, the Israelis will be content with this. But if the United States fails to do this, the Israelis will carry out a military reprisal. He affirmed that the Israelis right now are carefully considering the issue.

Asked about the expected location of the Israeli military operation, Abu-Iyad said: If the Israelis decide to carry out a military operation, in light of what I have said, it is bound to target Libya. It is also possible, however, that they might attack Palestinian leaders or institutions in the Jordanian capital, Amman.

Abu-Iyad said that if the United States stops the dialogue with the PLO then the Israelis would be content with such a moral step, which is important to them. Abu-Iyad affirmed the good coordination between the PLO on the one hand and Jordan and Libya on the other to respond to any Israeli military operation.

Kamal: Palestinian Offices Alert for Retaliation

JN0506083590 Al-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic 3 Jun 90 p 1

[By Ashraf al-'Ashri]

[Excerpt] In statements to AL-YAWM, Sa'id Kamal, Palestinian ambassador in Cairo, has said that he does not rule out an Israeli military action against any of the Arab countries it accuses of planning and participating in the recent fedayeen operation.

He said that he expects military operations against the PLO offices. The PLO has informed all Arab and European countries which host Palestinian offices and embassies, of the Israeli threats and the need for caution after the availability of confirmed information in this regard, the Palestine ambassador added.

A state of alert has indeed been declared among the ranks of the Palestinian forces deployed in many Arab countries in anticipation of an expected Israeli attack. [passage omitted]

PLO Prepares 'Extraordinary' Meeting in Baghdad

JN0406153890 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1215 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 4 Jun (WAKH)—The PLO Executive Committee will hold an extraordinary meeting in Baghdad tomorrow, under the chairmanship of Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat, to discuss some important issues, primarily the U.S. threat to halt the dialogue with the PLO.

Authorized Palestinian sources have told WAKH in Baghdad that the Executive Committee will also survey the outcome of the extraordinary Arab summit, which concluded in Baghdad last week, and its repercussions on the Palestine question. [passage omitted]

Furthermore, the sources added that the Executive Committee will discuss the recent U.S. Administration's stand after it vetoed a draft resolution on the dispatch of a fact-finding mission to the occupied Arab territories.

The Executive Committee will also examine the results of the Washington summit between U.S. President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in relation to the Middle East issue, in addition to the situation in the occupied Arab territories in light of the brutal escalation practiced by Israeli occupation authorities. [passage omitted]

In a related development, a Palestinian official has commented on Soviet President Gorbachev's warning to halt the emigration of Soviet Jews if Israel does not guarantee that it will not settle them in the occupied Arab territories, saying this statement "reaffirms the constant Soviet position of support for the Palestine question and the Palestinian people."

'Azzam al-Ahmad, ambassador of the state of Palestine in Baghdad, told WAKH that this position is in harmony with what the Soviet leadership has told the PLO; namely, that the Soviet leadership still supports the convening of an international conference on the Middle East.

The Palestinian ambassador said there would soon be intensive cooperation between the PLO and the Soviet leadership. In the next few days, he said, there will be meetings at every level to coordinate and consult on the next international steps to prepare for the international conference.

He added: We are certain that the Soviet Union has begun to feel deeply the adverse effects on the Palestinian people that have resulted from the immigration of Soviet Jews to the occupied Arab territories, and from U.S. and Israeli efforts to impair Arab-Soviet relations.

Gaza Trade Union Urges Boycott of U.S. Goods

JN0406070190 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Jun 90

[Text] Popular and official reactions in the occupied homeland continue against the U.S. veto which foiled a UN Security Council resolution to send international protection

to the Palestinian people and a committee to investigate the Israeli practices against the Palestinian people.

In a statement issued yesterday, the Palestinian General Trade Union in the Gaza Strip called for considering 5 June a day for supporting the Palestine question and the Palestinian people's legitimate struggle against the Israeli occupation. The Union urged fraternal and friendly trade unions to boycott U.S. products and goods, and not to offer services to U.S. ships and airliners in protest against the U.S. veto and the constant hostility toward the Palestine question and the Palestinian people.

Qaddumi: U.S. Epulsion Request 'Deviation'

JN0306215690 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Jun 90

[Text] Brother Faruq Qaddumi, foreign minister of the state of Palestine, has denounced the U.S. veto and said it has placed the United States on top of the list of terrorist countries in the world. He also said the Arab group will soon call for a UN Security Council session to discuss sending international observers to the occupied territories.

In press statements published in Kuwait today, Brother Qaddumi said the U.S. request to expel a PLO Executive Committee member is a deviation from sound political behavior. He said the PLO is not required to answer the U.S. request.

Brother Abu-al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] warned that the United States of America is pushing the Middle East toward a new war. He said the United States does not have any serious desire for peace, and that Arab and European states must exercise pressure on the United States to change its policy and end its bias toward Israel.

He added that the extraordinary Arab summit conference, which recently concluded its meetings in Baghdad, embodied Arab solidarity, established the guidelines for joint Arab action, and strengthened confidence among the Arab states and their ability to deter foreign aggression.

Dialogue With U.S. Termed Palestinian 'Demand'

JN0306094690 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1644 GMT 2 Jun 90

[Radio correspondent's commentary]

[Text] [passage indistinct] U.S. Representative Thomas Pickering justified the veto by claiming that sending an international team to the occupied territories will contribute toward escalating violence and tension. This statement seems to be a (?weird) one. But, in reality, it precisely expresses the crux of the U.S. policy toward the Palestine question. Pickering's statement reveals Washington's position, which refuses to give the Palestinians any political gain that would prompt them to continue their struggle or adhere to their legitimate political objectives and demands. In fact, the U.S. policy aims to inflict the heaviest losses on the Palestinians' cause and close all windows through which a ray of light can reach their unfortunate souls.

Now, what is the position of the new U.S. veto on the map of the conflict in the region. The veto's importance stems from the fact that it came even before the ink with which the Baghdad summit resolutions were written has dried. Those resolutions called for practical steps against the states which support the enemy and its plots and the intensive Jewish emigration.

It is well known that the Baghdad summit has not sent any messages to the Bush-Gorbachev summit because of what was reported about Arab differences over the assessment of the position toward Washington, especially since the required logical language to formulate this message was to forcefully reply to the U.S. memo that was sent to the Arab League on the summit's eve.

Therefore, Arabs are now required to take effective political stands toward Washington and the new U.S. veto, which renders the peace process a mere game played only by the United States and Israel in which Arabs can only watch or applaud.

On the Palestinian political front, Palestinian figures from the occupied territory have announced they will boycott any contact or meeting with representatives of the U.S. Administration. This announcement is a natural and logical reaction. However, one must admit that what dominates the Palestinian-Zionist conflict is neither normal nor logical. The Palestinians are compelled not to abandon any position which they reach in the field of politics or struggle. They have never retreated from any position, except by force. The Palestinian-U.S. dialogue is a Palestinian demand and terminating the dialogue is a Zionist demand which tops the agenda of the Congress, the fortress of U.S. Zionism.

What is required on the Palestinian level is to take advantage of the climate of Arab awakening, in spite of its limited nature, and to push forward toward the required winds of change. Actually, and despite the fact that everything in the Arab political climate tells of the official policy's failure to face the U.S. anti-Arab policy, no one can overlook the persistent Arab steps which will lead, sooner or later, to a direct confrontation with the U.S. imperialism.

The current climate in the region is very similar to that which existed in the early 1950's at the beginning of the comprehensive battle with British and French colonialism. Washington believes that the U.S. veto is a divine opportunity that will decide the fate of the entire Arab nation. However, history will prove that confrontation with the U.S. imperialism in the region will be inevitable and will be costly, very costly, for the Americans before anyone else.

PLF Operation 'Urgent Message' to Superpowers

JN0106155390 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 31 May 90 pp 1, 18

[By Raja Talab]

[Excerpt] The Palestine Liberation Front, [PLF] led by Muhammad 'Abbas, alias Abu-al-'Abbas, has claimed responsibility for the heroic operation carried out by special forces affiliated with the PLF Naval Forces on the coast of occupied Palestine. The PLF forces engaged the Israeli occupation forces in a number of positions along the Palestinian coast. Four fedayeen were martyred and 12 others were captured in the operation.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Administration threatened to halt the dialogue with the PLO if Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat does not condemn the fedayeen naval operation without hesitation or ambiguity.

A responsible source at the PLF told AL-WATAN over the telephone that the operation was an important and urgent message to the superpower summit scheduled in Washington today, Thursday. The PLF source added that the operation was also inspired by the spirit of the emergency Arab summit concluded in Baghdad yesterday. In his statement to AL-WATAN, the PLF source noted that the PLF Special Naval Forces launched five boats that were deployed along the Palestinian coast from Ashdod and Ashqelon in the North to Tel Aviv in the South. The PLF forces engaged all Israeli corps—Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Border Guard, and Army.

The PLF source said that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Israeli Chief of Staff Dan Shomron supervised the progress of the entire operation during the engagement. The source added that the five Palestinian boats, which deceived the enemy by its unexpected high speed, were equipped with weapons that were used for the first time in such operations. The boats were equipped with rocket launchers, anti-aircraft SAM-7 missiles, and heavy machine guns. The source added that the five boats used all these weapons intensively during the operation that lasted several hours.

The PLF source categorically denied that a Libyan ship took part in the operation. He noted that involving Libya is only an Israeli and American excuse to attack the Jamahiriyah and justify the failure of the Israeli radars, which were surprised to find the boats reaching the coast.

The source gave AL-WATAN the full text of the statement issued by the PLF in which it claimed responsibility for the operation. [passage omitted]

'Text' of Intifadah Call No. 57

JN2605204290 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1840 GMT 26 May 90

["Text" of call No. 57 issued by the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah on 26 May]

[Text] Our heroic Palestinian masses: people of the martyrs, of generosity, and of valor; makers and movers of the intifadah. Our Palestinian people in their villages, camps, on the soil of their homeland, and in exile are gripped with pain over the bestial massacres committed by the occupation soldiers in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank—the massacres of our workers in Rishon Leziyyon, which express the ugliness, barbarism and fascism of the Zionist regime that have reached the point of madness shared by all circles of the Zionist occupation. Black Sunday will enter the annals of our people's sacrifices. The Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah [UNLI] designates 20 May a day of the martyrs of the working class in Palestine, and it calls on trade union associations around the world to stand by the Palestinian working class.

Our masses: Your response to the scandalous Zionist crimes of the occupation army and the Zionist expansionist gang [word indistinct] you prove in the arenas of struggle and through massive popular demonstrations, and clashes of rocks and molotovs with the soldiers of occupation and its settlers that our people are the stronger party and that our cause is bound to triumph. And with your [indistinct word] sacrifices and your unsurpassed valor, you have once again caused the Zionist enemy to be isolated and condemned throughout the world. You have won the support of the Palestinian and Jordanian masses in Jordan, exposed the policy of capitulation to American imperialism [word indistinct] and with your just struggle opened the way to winning the broadest popular Arab solidarity.

The 20 May crime and subsequent successive crimes committed by the fascist occupiers have been spawned by the spiteful, Zionist filth and the criminal policies they are perpetrating. These are a direct consequence of the unlimited U.S. support for Israel and the cover the United states provides to Israel by failing to recognize the Palestinian people's rights and by helping Israel to resist national and international pressure to follow the path of a just peace.

The date of 20 May has entered the history of the intifadah and the region as a turning point that has restored to the popular intifadah its great and popular depth, enhanced popular participation in its activities, eliminated attempts to obscure the Palestinian struggle, and has placed the Palestinian cause in the forefront of Arab and international concerns, which confirms that the intifadah will continue to grow and escalate until the flags of our Palestinian state flutter over the hilltops of our homeland in the most explicit expression of national unity.

Thanks to our people's sacrifices, and to the persistence of our people's struggling heroes in the strike forces and the popular comittees, and thanks to the sweeping popular confrontations in the Gaza Strip, the villages, camps, and cities in the Palestinian [West] Bank, and the unsparing offerings of the masses of workers who have crossed the (Eretz) point bearing the flags of Palestine and banners of national mourning, and entered into

widespread confrontations with the occupation gangs, we reiterate our categorical rejection of attempts to manipulate the will of the Palestinian people and to circumvent their cause through the various conspiratorial schemes, from Baker's plan to Shamir's plan.

The world at large is becoming more and more convinced that the real peace plan is the Palestinian peace plan and abidance by it should be meticulously resumed, in addition to acceptance of our Palestinian people's right to repatriation and self-determination, the establishment of their independent state, and equal representation through their sole and legitimate representative, the PLO, within the framework of the international conference.

Heroes of the intifadah, you who have transformed the stones, molotovs, and militant determination into weapons more stubborn than the repressive Zionist war machine, let us focus our potential and efforts on escalating the heroic popular intifadah to gather and direct our people's energies and reorganize the popular committees in every location, quarter, village, and camp. Let us complete the formation of UNLI committees in every village, city, camp, and area [words indistinct] in every militant position, from heroic Rafah to valiant Jenin. Let all our efforts focus on the task of making the occupation's gangs withdraw from residential areas and from the lands of our state of Palestine, and insist on an international presence of neutral forces from the United Nations in the occupied territories to provide protection for the Palestinian people from the army of the Israeli aggression, and to enable the Palestinian people to determine their fate and future in complete freedom without Israeli occupation.

Let us make the life of the occupiers and their settlers hell so that the world will assume its responsibilities and put an end to the Israeli series of crimes, which is supported by the United States, and make the Arab rulers face their responsibilities and make the test of the coming Arab summit be support for the Palestinian peace program and full solidarity with our people's legitimate struggle.

On the occasion of the Arab summit, we urge the Arab rulers and presidents to provide immediate financial support to the Palestinian workers, particularly those from Gaza Strip, whose lives are threatened and whose endeavors to earn a living mean risking their lives and existence. We also call on the Arab summit to support the PLO's political program to find a just and lasting solution in the region.

Let the broad masses continue to activate popular Arab support in the form of pressure on their governments to put an end to the policy of appeasing the United States and its suspect schemes. Let the masses of the Palestinian people in Nazareth, Umm al-Fahm, al-Taybah, and the Negev continue their solidarity with the intifadah and the legitimate objectives of our people's struggle for self-determination and the achievement of national independence to embody the unity of our Palestinian people and their quest for a bright future.

On the occasion of the UN Security Council session, we praise the demands made by those who are staging a hunger strike at the Red Cross headquarters in Jerusalem. We call on the Security Council to take immediate and practical steps to send UN envoys to provide protection for our unarmed people; to investigate the bitter circumstances that our people are subjected to under occupation, including oppression, murder, and the policy of annihilation and terrorism practiced by the occupation authorities; and to stop the aggressors from going to extremes in the policy of attacking our sacred places—from the armed occupation of the St. John's building, to the desecration of Korans in the mosques of Burin and Hebron, to the flagrant attacks against the Jerusalem al-Aqsa Mosque and Prophet Joseph's shrine in Nabulus, to the demolition of the Abu Dis Mosque, to the jailing of religious men, to the closing of mosques in Gaza Strip.

On this occasion, we also praise the resolutions adopted by the Socialist International to recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. We praise and welcome the positive reactions of European countries to the massacres, including the French initiative to send immediately a high-level delegation to the occupied territories and the Belgian initiative to dispatch medical supplies to the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

O masses of our people, O you who made the intifadah and direct it with your fists: We are marching on the road of victory. Our legitimate cause has become the focal point of all freedom-, justice-, and peace-loving forces in the whole world. Our enemy is suffering isolation and confusion. Let us continue steadfastly forward on the road of struggle and let us carry out the following activities.

One: All popular committees in all positions are to be restructured immediately to ensure the broadest popular participation. The committees are to include UNLI parties, independent nationalist figures, and the UNLI committees in every camp, village, town, and region.

Two: The clashes with the oppressive occupation forces are to continue at full strength using all means and resources. Let us pursue them at every street corner until a neutral international presence is deployed in the occupied territories as a first step toward self-determination and independent statehood.

Three: Let us stage popular marches on a daily basis to keep the memory of the martyrs alive and to illustrate our insistence on the right to self-determination and our continuing the struggle to sweep away occupation. Let escalation mount until it peaks on 5 June.

Four: Let us fly black banners atop every house in mourning for the heroic martyrs of our people until 5 June, when they must be replaced by the Palestinian state's flags.

Five: To enhance the success of the valiant worker's strike, henceforth, work in Israeli settlements or in any settlement projects is to be totally banned.

Six: The week from 24 May to 31 May will be a week of fire and anger against the occupation forces and settler herds to inflict on them the heaviest manpower, economic, political, and moral losses.
Seven: Let 28 May be a day of special struggle to mark the convening of the Arab summit, and let popular demonstrations and marches be held as a call for Arab leaders to assume their responsibilities to make the summit resolutions compatible with the Palestinian program of struggle and peace.
Eight: Let 31 May be observed as a day of general strike to mark the Gorbachev-Bush meeting and to urge immediate preparations for an international conference.
Nine: Let 3 June be observed as a day of general strike to dramatize the unity of our people in and outside the homeland.
Ten: 4 June will be a day of special escalation to mark the anniversary of the martyrdom of the struggler 'Umar al-Qasim and all jailed strugglers, and a day of salutation to the struggle of our prisoners held in fascist jails.
Eleven: The workers are to maintain their boycott of Israeli projects, particularly those in the West Bank, until 7 June. Let our masses and the PLO institutions shoulder their responsibility to support our workers. They are urged to put into effect the program of family solidarity on the local and Arab levels.
Twelve: Travel from the state of Palestine shall be banned until 10 June. There will also be a total ban on dealing with departments of the civil administration and the military authorities, including withholding taxes, car licensing fees, bails, and fines. Summons from military courts and the civil administration are also to be ignored, as are those to appear before military courts. We urge our masses to disobey curfew and other occupation orders.
Thirteen: Our masses within the green line are urged to escalate their solidarity with the masses of the intifadah and the rights of our people, and to stand up to the fascist policies of occupation. Let Saturday be a day of special escalation of solidarity with the intifadah.
Fourteen: 5 June will be a general strike day to dramatize your rejection of occupation, when flags of the Palestinian state are to be raised and nationalist slogans chanted, and popular marches organized in honor of the memory of the martyrs.
Fifteen: 9 June will be a general strike day, to mark 31 months since the intifadah began.

Note: In the event of the higher school examinations coinciding with strike days, teachers and students are to be exempted. UNLI urges the strike forces not to harass the vehicles and property of international and humanitarian bodies.

Long live the popular intifadah; long live the PLO; glory and immortality to our righteous martyrs.

[Signed] The PLO, UNLI, the state of Palestine

Algeria

Reportage on Visit of SRV President Vo Chi Cong

Economic Cooperation Accord Signed

LD0106082290 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 31 May 90

[Text] The file of Algerian-Vietnamese cooperation has remained open at more than one level all this week on the occasion of the visit of the Vietnamese president to our country. The talks included those held between representatives of the Algerian Ministry of Economy and the Vietnamese Finance Ministry. These talks were crowned this afternoon at the el-Mithaq residence with the signing of an economic cooperation agreement, signed on the Algerian side by the minister delegate for trade organization, Mr. Ismail Goumeziane, and by the Vietnamese finance minister, Mr. Hoang Quy.

The agreement provides for increasing the volume of trade exchanges between the two countries and for the setting up of joint youth cooperatives specializing in handicrafts, school stationery, and sports equipment.

Vo Chi Cong Departs 1 Jun

LD0106204690 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 1 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Vietnamese President Vo Chi Kong left Algiers this afternoon at the end of a two-week official visit and after a last discussion with Prime Minister Hamrouche. In a statement to the press, Vo Chi Kong stressed that his visit was crowned with great success. His points of view, he added, converge with those of President Chadli Bendjedid on several points, in particular in the sphere of the reforms underway in Algeria and the renewal underway in Vietnam in the face of the changes that have taken place on the international scene.

It should be recalled that an economic and commercial agreement has been signed. It envisions the development of economic relations in all spheres. In particular it envisions the establishment of cooperation between young people and the creation of artisans' societies and school [word indistinct]. [passage omitted]

Bendjedid Meets With Mauritanian Counterpart

LD0306132790 Algiers APS in English 1025 GMT 3 Jun 90

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid had tete a tete talks Saturday here with Mauritanian President Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya. These talks took up bilateral and Maghreb questions and the latest developments on the Arab scene. The Mauritanian president made a stop over here Saturday on his way to his country returning from Baghdad, where he attended the area extraordinary summit.

IRNA Reports Iranian-Algerian Commercial Talks

LD0106183790 Tehran IRNA in English 1319 GMT 1 Jun 90

[Text] Algiers, June 1, IRNA—Expansion of Tehran-Algiers ties in oil and gas fields and exchange of experiences in mines and agriculture were discussed during meetings between a visiting Iranian economic delegation and Algerian officials here Friday.

The Iranian delegation led by Deputy Minister of Heavy Industries Hasan Ramezanyan-pur [name as received] also discused commercial exchanges in the framework of the joint Iran-Algeria commission, during meetings with Algerian minister of energy and mines, deputy agriculture minister, governor of the Central Bank and head of the Chamber of Commerce.

Ramezanyan-pur and his entourage left Tehran for Algiers Tuesday on a 7-day visit at the invitation of the Algerian minister of commerce to follow up articles of the protocol signed between the two countries last year.

He is also to discuss the date for the holding of the second session of the forthcoming joint Iran-Algiers economic commission.

Islamic Front Holds Rally, Warns Against Coup

LD0406211690 Paris Domestic Service in French 2100 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] In Algeria, more than 100,000 people have taken part in an election rally of the Islamic Salvation Front at the big stadium in Algiers this evening. Its leader, Cheikh Abassi Madani, warned the Algerian Army against any attempted coup d'etat. The Islamic Salvation Front is the main rival of the FLN [National Liberation Front], the ruling party, in the elections of 12 June. The election campaign in Algeria ends this evening. The FLN for its part has also called a big rally in the capital.

Egypt

Reaction to U.S. Veto of UN Draft Resolution

Mubarak Demands U.S. Explanation

JN0306184490 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Jun 90

[Mustafa Bakri dispatch from Cairo]

[Text] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has sent an important message to his American counterpart, George Bush, dealing with the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue and the recent U.S. stand at the Security Council. We have learned that in his message, President Mubarak stressed that the U.S. Security Council veto will obstruct all regional and international efforts to establish peace in the region. He said that sending a Security Council fact-finding mission is a natural and just demand to protect the Palestinian civilians from Israeli violence in

the occupied territories. Mubarak warned that the biased U.S. positions will certainly return the region to dependence on the military option as the only means to deal with rights and issues of conflict. The Egyptian president demanded an early U.S. explanation of the reasons for this decision, and that the United States itself communicate this decision [as heard] to all other Arab countries, including the state of Palestine.

In his message, Mubarak stressed the need to continue the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue and said U.S. cancellation of this dialogue will not only affect the peace process and U.S.-Arab relations, but will also lead to instability, which means exposing U.S. interests in the region to danger.

Concluding his message, Mubarak made the following three basic demands of the U.S. Administration:

1. To agree to the dispatch of a Security Council fact-finding mission and to persuade Israel to accept this mission and render the necessary facilities to it.

2. To upgrade the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue and to tackle substantive issues concerning the peace process in the region.

3. To warn Israel against any military action against the Palestinians or any Arab country.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Denounces Veto

NC0206074590 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0615 GMT 2 Jun 90

[Text] Cairo, 1 Jun (MENA)—AL-JUMHURIYAH strongly denounces the U.S veto of the draft resolution presented to the UN Security Council by the Arab group at the United Nations. The draft resolution proposed that a UN fact-finding committee be sent to the occupied Arab territories in the wake of the massacre committed by an Israeli soldier, who killed eight Palestinian workers.

In its editorial today, the paper writes that this American stand is extremely detrimental to U.S interests and deals a new blow to its credibility in handling the issues of freedom, peace, and human rights.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says no one will be convinced by the U.S justification that its stand is in reaction to the bold operation carried out by a group of the Palestine Liberation Front near the Tel Aviv coast.

The paper notes that the United States objected to the draft resolution in spite of the changes, omissions, and amendments that were made on it to avoid demanding that a UN force visit the occupied territories to observe Israeli oppression, although a similar step had been taken earlier in Namibia.

The paper concludes that the U.S veto reflects the U.S. viewpoint, which backs Israel at all times, gives unlimited support to its expansionist ambition and its inhumane and oppressive policy, and encourages its intransigent stand on efforts to achieve peace in the Middle East.

AL-AKHBAR Criticizes Veto

NC0306064190 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2215 GMT 2 Jun 90

[Text] Cairo, 2 Jun (MENA)—AL-AKHBAR denounces the U.S. veto to prevent the UN Security Council from sending a UN fact-finding mission to the occupied Palestinian territories to investigate the ugly crimes committed by the Israeli forces.

In its Sunday edition, AL-AKHBAR says that the U.S. veto is neither the first nor the last. It shows that the United States is fully content with what the Israeli forces are meting out to children, women, and old people. It also shows that the United States completely rejects any attempt to unveil these savage crimes and have them recorded in UN documents. Such behavior in itself is enough to make someone to lose confidence in the United States once and for all.

AL-AKHBAR adds that even more ridiculous is that Washington has threatened to halt its contacts with the PLO after the attempt to accuse it of perpetrating the incident in which some fedayeen tried to attack the Israeli coast. The PLO has denied any involvement in the incident. But even if the accusation is true, it is not comparable to the series of crimes against the Palestinians that have continued for years.

AL-AHRAM, AL-AKHBAR Comment

NC0506084690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0625 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] Cairo, 5 Jun (MENA)—AL-AHRAM criticizes the U.S. use of its veto in the Security Council against the draft resolution to send a fact-finding mission to the occupied Arab territories.

In its editorial today, the Egyptian newspaper says that such behavior will encourage Israel to continue its bloody terrorism against the Palestinian people and will encourage the Israeli Government to belittle international efforts to reach a solution on the Palestinian problem. The paper calls for a review of the files on Arab-American relations in order to take a specific stand on the U.S. policy that disregards the most basic human rights principles when the human being concerned is an Arab, but becomes infuriated when the matter concerns non-Arabs, particularly Jews, in any part of the world, in which case the substance and form of the issue then becomes different.

AL-AHRAM ponders what harm would befall the United States if a mission were sent whose aim only was to check the facts and take the necessary measures to protect Palestinian civilians from the acts of repression and killing to which they are subjected at the hands of the Israelis.

AL-AKHBAR writes in its editorial that the consistent U.S. policy of using its veto to prevent the Security Council from issuing any resolution unacceptable to

Israel, even when the whole world supports and demands it, does not merely express favoritism for Israel but in fact expresses a latent and firm U.S. policy. The paper says that the real objective is to maintain the prevailing tense situation in the Middle East that prevents the restoration of calm and peace. It adds that the United States can play an influential and effective role in resolving the Arab world's conflicts with Israel and the Palestinian people's retrieval of their lands.

AL-AKHBAR calls on Arabs to be aware of the true, current U.S. policy on the Arab-Israeli conflict, which always supports Israel. It notes that as long as the problem continues without a final solution, all the Arab countries, particularly those neighboring Israel, will continue to disperse their efforts, squander the resources that are necessary to achieve the progress they seek, and be forced to spend more money to strengthen security measures for fear of the usual attacks from Israel, whose intentions are no secret.

Fatah Envoy in Cairo Views U.S.-Soviet Summit

NC0406121490 Cairo MENA in English 1135 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Cairo, June 4—(MENA)—"Fatah" Representative here Zuhdi al-Qidrah, paid tribute to the attitude of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev during the American-Soviet summit and his statement that he would consider halting the Soviet Jews immigration, if Israel did not give assurances that the migrants would not be settled in the occupied Arab territories.

Al-Qidrah said the Soviet president adopted this decision out of belief in the human rights of the Palestinians like the rest of the peoples of the world. He described the Soviet stance as that of a friend committed to issues of liberty and human rights.

Al-Qidrah urged the U.S. to adopt positive stances vis-a-vis the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people instead of its present flagrant bias to Israel.

5 'Extremists' Arrested for Qina Minibus Attack

JN0106182090 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 31 May 90 p 1

[Text] The security forces have arrested five of the extremists who attacked the central security officers minibus in Qina last Sunday, wounding four officers when they threw incendiary bombs on the bus.

Interior Minister Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Musa said the arrest was made without using any violence and that the culprits have been referred to the prosecution. He added that the remaining culprits will be arrested within hours.

Interior Minister on Arrests

NC0406162290 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1339 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Cairo, 4 Jun (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has received a report on the security situation in Egypt in general and on the situation in Qina in particular in the wake of recent incidents in which extremists attacked a police vehicle, injuring some officers while they were on their way to work in Qina.

Announcing this, Interior Minister Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Musa said that President Mubarak followed up these developments and assured himself about the stability of the security situation step by step while he was abroad.

In statements to journalists today, the interior minister said the security authorities have arrested eight of those who were involved in these incidents. He added that one of them was arrested late last night and that another extremist gave himself up to the police early this morning after police had stepped up their search and surrounded his hideout.

The interior minister stated that the prosecution had released two of the persons detained in connection with the Qina incidents and that he had ordered their rearrest in accordance with the emergency law, as the security authorities are certain that they belong to extremist elements involved in these incidents. He asserted that the security authorities are continuing their efforts to find and arrest those extremists who took part in the attack on police officers in Qina and subsequently got away.

He noted that, in dealing with the Qina incidents, the security authorities acted according to the law and that no excesses were committed when arrests were made. He pointed out that he will personally oversee the arrest of the extremists. He said that those extremists who are still at large will be arrested soon, as important information has been received that will help the authorities to track them down.

Court Sentences Al-Rayyan to 30 Years for Fraud

NC0406202290 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1929 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Cairo, 4 Jun (MENA)—The Bulaq al-Dakrur court of misdemeanors today sentenced Ahmad Tawfiq 'Abd-al-Fattah al-Rayyan, chairman of the al-Rayyan group of companies, to 30 years imprisonment on 45 charges of passing bad checks to the tune of three million pounds.

A number of investors had filed these suits after al-Rayyan gave them checks for their investments. They also accused him of defrauding them of their money.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Talks With Syrian, Yemeni Leaders

LD0306175990 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1715 GMT 3 Jun 90

[Text] A telephone contact took place today between the brother leader of the revolution and President Hafiz al-Asad, president of sister Republic of Syria.

A telephone contact was also made at noon today between the brother leader and Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of sister Republic of Yemen.

Reportage on Visit of Vietnam's Vo Chi Cong

Meets Al-Qadhdhafi 2 Jun

LD0206145890 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1145 GMT 2 Jun 90

[Text] Tripoli, 2 June, JANA—The brother leader of the revolution this morning received Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the State Council of the Republic of Vietnam who is now paying a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah. A meeting was held between the brother leader of the revolution and Chairman Vo Chi Cong, which dealt with bilateral relations and the means for their consolidation and development. The meeting was attended by the brother secretary of the General People's Committee and Nguyen Viet Dung, secretary general of the State Council of the Republic of Vietnam.

Cooperation Agreement Signed

LD0406124290 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1000 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Tripoli, 4 Jun (JANA)—An agreement for economic and financial cooperation between the Great Jamahiriyah and Vietnam was signed in Tripoli this morning. It was signed by the brother secretary of the General People's Committee for the Treasury and Vietnamese Finance Minister Hoang Quy.

The agreement stipulates the bolstering and the consolidation of joint cooperation in the fields of various investments in such a way that would contribute to the two friendly countries' prosperity in agricultural, industrial, mineral, and fishing spheres and activities as well as other fields of investments. The agreement also stipulates the bolstering of trade between the two friendly countries as well as consolidating the exchange of their products.

The two sides affirmed the deepness of relations between the Great Jamahiryah and Vietnam which are based upon fruitful cooperation and reciprocal respect as well as the coordination of stances and their firm posture against the policies of economic blockade exercised by American imperialism.

Meets Al-Qadhdhafi 4 June

LD0406154290 Tripoli JANA in English 1450 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Tripoli, June 4, Arab Maghreb Union Pool/ JANA—The leader of the revolution has received this morning Mr. Cong, chairman of the State Council of Vietnam Republic, and his accompanying delegation. Present at this meeting were Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and the secretary of the general people's committee.

Sends Thanks to Al-Qadhdhafi

LD0406162690 Tripoli JANA In English 1454 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Sayf [June] 4, Jamahiriya News Agency—Mr. Cong, president of Vietnam has sent a telegram of thanks and appreciation to the leader of the revolution on leaving Great Al- Jamahiriyah. The telegram says:

On leaving the beautiful land of Great Al-Jamahiriya, I express to yourself and the friendly Libyan Arab people my thanks and appreciation for the great welcome accorded to myself and my accompanying delegation during our visit to Great Al-Jamahiriya wishing you good health and for the friendly Libyan Arab people all happiness and welfare. With my regards and respect.

Kuwait

Minister on Possible Husayn-Rafsanjani Talks

LD0506135690 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1235 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 5 Jun (KUNA)—Kuwait said today it hoped that the expected meeting between Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Rafsanjani would take place as soon as possible.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir again today welcomed the positive atmosphere and the efforts being made to hold such a meeting. [passage omitted]

He stressed that a meeting between Presidents Saddam Husayn and Hashemi-Rafsanjani should resolve all outstanding problems between the two neigboring countries and strengthen the climate of security and stability in the region. [passage omitted]

He also pointed to the statement issued by the Kuwaiti Council of Ministers in this regard.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad again criticized the United States' veto of the draft resolution submitted to the UN Security Council by the Arab group which condemns the settlement of Soviet Jewish immigrants in the occupied Palestinian territories. He said that yesterday Kuwait summoned the U.S. Ambassador Wilson Nathaniel Howell who was informed by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi of Kuwait's displeasure with the U.S. stand and the danger posed by this stand as well as the support for the Israeli occupation authorities to continue with their settlement expansionist policy. He added that the GCC Ministerial Council also expressed its displeasure and regret that the United States used the veto against the draft resolution.

Regarding the intention to submit the draft resolution in a new formula to the Security Council, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad pointed out that this idea has been mooted but so far no agreement has been reached. [passage omitted]

Saudi Arabia

'Source' Says Khamene'i Betrays People

LD0506024490 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2340 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Mecca, 4 Jun 1990 (SPA)—A responsible source said to SPA today: Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i persists in betraying himself and his people. The Iranian president said in a sermon, which was broadcast by Radio Tehran today in Persion on the occasion of the first anniversary of the death of Khomeyni: The Saudi rulers have closed the road to God's House (Mecca) and to the visit to the prophet's tomb, may God's peace and blessings be upon him.

He then irrationally uttered words and sentences which have no meaning, in a miserable and desperate attempt to deceive Iran's people to which carrying the slogan of death in the holy rites is a completion of pilgrimage. In this way, Khamene'i and a few individuals around him see that only they are right and that a billion Muslims are straying from the right path.

The source added: Khamene'i wants to disagree with Muslims by expressing heresies which are in contradiction with the teachings of the true religion and which are rejected by the tolerant Islamic law... He wants to create sedition between the ranks of Muslims and he divides their gathering in the holiest place on earth and on the greatest and most sacred days for all Muslims and then accuses the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of preventing the Iranian pilgrim from performing his duty.

The source continued: The claim reiterated today by Khamene'i—and as had been reiterated by others before him—serves as evidence of the total failure to face up to the successive assurances announced repeatedly and often by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia—and is now announcing once more—that it is ready to welcome Iranian pilgrims in accordance with the quota allocated to Iran and provided the pilgrims abide by the good behavior and conduct of the pilgrimage dictated by God. Perhaps the best and most appropriate reply to the allegations made by Khamene'i and his colleagues is what has been said by thousands of Muslims—theologians, imams, heads of Islamic centres, organizations, and societies—who continue to denounce and condemn the attempt by the Iranian rulers to prevent their own Muslim people from performing the pilgrimage on false, flimsy, and unacceptable pretexts and allegations.

The source said: As you, Your Excellency President Khamene'i, today mark the anniversary of the death of Imam Khomeyni, the least thing you are expected to do is to follow his advice and guidance, which were communicated by the Iranian Embassy to Saudi officials in a cable dated 23 November 1979 [date as received]. The cable said: The leader of the Iranian Islamic Revolution Imam Khomeyni has issued an order to all Iranian pilgrims in which he called on them to abide by the religious edicts and the government laws of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He also ordered them not to perform the group collective prayers in houses. He urged them to participate in Friday prayers and warned them against running their hands on and kissing [the Kaaba]. He also ordered them to abide by the practices usually applied in the performance of the pilgrimage.

If you [Khamene'i] really follow in the footsteps of your imam, then these are his teachings for you to follow. But if you do not, then you have to answer to your people. God alone guide us along the correct path.

UK Signs Drug Monitoring Agreement in Jeddah

LD0206184790 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 2 Jun 90

[Excerpts] An agreement on the verification of trading in drugs and the confiscation of the earnings from drug-dealing was signed today in Jeddah between the Governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The agreement was signed on the Saudi side by His Royal Highness Prince Nayif Bin-'abd-al-'Aziz, interior minister, and on the British side by His Excellency Douglas Hurd, secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs. [passage omitted]

It is said that this agreement is the first of its kind signed by the British Government with a Middle East country.

Yemen Arab Republic

Salih Views Unity, Economy, Other Issues

JN0406215690 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, has emphasized that Yemeni unity and the establishment of the Republic of Yemen have had a positive impact on our people. Among the advantages, the president listed ending division, pooling all our energies to dig out the natural resources, developing a strong national economy and viable economic and industrial sectors, building modern institutions, and ending tension that used to divide the one Yemeni people. Yemeni unity has also been well received internationally, with the Republic of Yemen developing its ties with its neighbors in the [Arabian] Peninsula, the Gulf, the Red Sea, and the Horn of Africa. He stressed that the Republic of Yemen will be a force for regional stability and security.

The statements were made in a television interview with the ROK (QBH) Television and the (NBBK) television network. The president expressed the hope that our country and the ROK will further develop their relations. With a united Yemen now established, we are going to develop our ties with all its sister states and all friends around the world.

Meanwhile, a French media team conducted an interview with brother Lieutenant Gen 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. Asked to name the main economic difficulties facing Yemeni unity, the brother chairman said we certainly are encountering the same economic difficulties we had when we were divided. This is the result of our limited exports and meager resources, but we look with great hope to a promising future when we will be able to overcome our economic problems through a sustained effort in prospecting for gas and oil and developing agriculture and industry as well as pooling all cadres and energies previously dispersed through the two halves of Yemen.

On the status of women in our country, the brother chairman stressed that, under the Constitution, people are equal in terms of obligations and rights. Under Islam, women enjoy unabridged rights, and they have a privileged status in Yemeni society and are participating in the parliamentary and in every other activity. There is no ban whatsoever on the Yemeni woman, the chairman added.

On the role of foreign investment in development in the Republic, the chairman of the Presidential Council said the right of local, Arab, and foreign investment is provided for in a new law. Foreign investors, including American, French, and Soviet firms, are active in the Republic of Yemen.

Replying to a further question from the French media on the priority the state gives to oil, Chairman Salih said this sector is governed by a law that welcomes investment by all companies in the areas of gas and oil in all parts of the country.

On the economic sector, the chairman said a political, economic, and social system has been worked out. On the standing of brother ulema [religious scholars], the president said they are held in high regard. But of course, some ulemas have their own views on the main source of laws that were recently endorsed by the legislature authority representing the people. He emphasized that the Yemeni state religion is Islam, which has been agreed.

Djibouti's Gouled Meets With Salih, Departs

EA0406100090 Djibouti Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 2 Jun 90

[Text] The visit of President Hasan Gouled Aptidon to Sanaa, the capital of the union Republic of Yemen, was within the framework of cooperation between the Republic of Djibouti and the Republic of Yemen. Before his departure from Sanaa, President Gouled held talks once again with President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih of the Republic of Yemen. The two presidents discussed future bilateral relations, since both countries are on the Red Sea, and the situation prevalent in the region.

This is the first visit by the president to the Republic of Yemen. He was accompanied by Mr. Mumin Bahdon Farah, the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, and Mr. Ismail Umar Gelleh, the administrator of the Office of the President.

The visit proves the special attention the Republic of Djibouti gives to the situation in the region. The birth of the Republic of Yemen is a move in favor of the peace and stability of the Red Sea and the Horn of Africa. The president disclosed this during his visit to Sanaa.

The president left Sanaa this morning. He was seen off at the airport by President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and other members of his government.

Emigre Paper Reports 17 Pilots Executed

LD0106133190 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Jun 90

[Text] The Iraqi regime has executed 17 pilots belonging to that country's air force.

According to the report of the Central News Unit from London, citing Iraqi refugees residing in Britain, those army officers were arrested following the discovery of a coup d'etat in Iraq, and they were executed in the beginning of April, the end of Farvardin.

The weekly publication called AL-TA'IR AL-JADID, which belongs to the Iraqi refugees residing in Britain, while confirming the news, wrote that, apart from the execution of those army officers, a number of their relatives and friends, including a number of other pilots and officers, are detained.

Papers Attack Syria's Nonparticipation in Summit

THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER

JN0506080590 Baghdad INA in English 0940 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Excerpts] Baghdad, June 4, INA—AL-THAWRAH daily described as positive and responsible Baghdad summit resolutons, particularly those concerned with the development of the situation between Iraq and Iran.

In an article published today, the daily confirmed that not only did the summit resolutions match the atmosphere of international detente and recent changes, but they also reflected the Arab nation's firm belief and its sincere willingness to establish a just and comprehensive peace.

Referring to the situation between Iraq and Iran, the paper pointed out that the summit had adopted clear and concerted resolutions in this respect. [passage omitted]

The English language, THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER said that the summit's main concern was pan-Arab security and how to face up to Israeli threats. This would have been enough to convince Syria to attend the sumit.

It said that collective action has become the only option for the Arabs to resort to. The go-it-alone strategy has proved to be working in Israel's interest. Israel has always prayed for a situation where it can deal with Arabs one by one, not all of them together.

It added that Syria is obviously prompted by a desire to steal the limelight, to appear, albeit with no success, as though it were capable of dictating its own policy which, in a wider perspective, would look short-sighted and incompatable with the scale of the threats.

It would not be doing injustice to say that Syria has been the sound of discord in almost every summit. It has stonewalled any bid at joint Arab action, failng to transcend differences with others.

The daily further said that if it is still Syria's aim to attain "strategic balance" with Israel which it has failed to secure alone, the summit has offered a chance to collectively redress the situation in not only Syria's but in all others' favour.

The Baghdad summit was not meant to be a forum to air differences. It was meant to promote Arab joint action, to seize on any concensus towards a given issue. One may wonder whether Syria is in disagreement with others on the mounting danger posed by Israeli militarism and plans to settle Jewish immigrants in occupied territories. Some Jewish immigrants have already been settled in the Golan heights.

AL-JUMHURIYAH

JN0506074490 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0610 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Jun (INA)—The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH says that the Syrian regime's calculated intention not to attend the Baghdad summit and its insistence on nonparticipation in the summit deliberations constitute an act of subversion against the Arab nation's interests.

In an article today, the newspaper adds that this Syrian position is equal in its effect and outcome to a series of subversive positions previously adopted by the Syrian regime. The paper goes on to say: Some of these positions concern this regime's anti-PLO stance, its disgraceful alliance with the Iranian aggression on the eastern borders of the homeland, and the Syrian occupation of Lebanese territories.

The paper affirms that in so doing, the Syrian regime falls prey once again to its grand delusion that showing persistence and perseverance in espousing these positions might harm the Arab destiny—a wish desired by the enemies of the Arab nation.

The paper stresses that the Baghdad summit succeeded despite Syria's absence. It adds that the summit endorsed specific practical resolutions to protect pan-Arab security; support the Palestinian intifadah; and show solidarity with Iraq, Libya, and Jordan against Zionist machinations.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says that the approximation of Arab political stands; the creation of an atmosphere of amity, brotherhood, and solidarity; joint action; the agreement to hold annual Arab summits; and the formation of a committee to follow up the implementation of the summit resolutions were all manifestations of the summit's success. The paper adds: All these things undoubtedly confirm that the Arab nation is taking new paths toward pan-Arab progress and advancement so that it is capable of confronting threats. This also shows that the Arab nation is deriving its strength and power from new wellsprings, surmouting the difficulties and obstacles placed by the Syrian rulers, and leaving these, as well as the Syrian rulers, behind.

Commentary on Summit Results, Arab Future

Arab Power for Regional Peace

JN0306120490 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0955 GMT 3 Jun 90

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Jun (INA)—The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH affirms that the speech delivered by His Excellency President Saddam Husayn at the inaugural session of the Baghdad summit has become a collective Arab message and that the Iraqi warning addressed to the Zionist entity has established a new defense for pan-Arab security.

In an article published today headlined "Recognizing the Principle of Arab Power," the paper says: What is important is to see all Arab states play their natural roles on the military, economic, and cultural fronts of this pan-Arab security.

AL-JUMHURIYAH stresses that the Arab power factor must be a genuine prelude to a regional peace that would be in harmony with the efforts being made to achieve and maintain world peace.

The paper indicates that the objective of the strategic parity practically achieved by Iraq and placed at the disposal of pan-Arab security and the national security of every Arab state and people is to prevent a Zionist aggression and to make a war involving the use of all weapons avoidable.

AL-JUMHURIYAH wonders whether the international detente between the USSR and the United States would be actually capable of comprehending the significance of the new Arab power and the Arabs' understanding of strategic parity with the Zionist enemy.

Concluding, the paper answers the question by saying that conveying this message is the responsibility of the Arab states. The paper adds: This message is best conveyed when Arab states make real efforts to bolster dialogue between Arabs and world states. Moreover, this objective becomes achievable when the Arab leaders manage to use their changing strategic elements to bolster the legitimate Arab presence in the world club of the strong.

Resolutions Start of 'New Era'

JN0306124490 Baghdad INA in English 1140 GMT 3 Jun 90

[Text] Baghdad, June 3, INA—The Baghdad extraordinary summit concluded a series of 3-day meetings last week with a batch of resolutions which can well be considered as a wisely-worded statement. The Arab leaders generally concentrated on defending the arab national security.

A BAGHDAD DAILY OBSERVER [as received] editorial has said the resolutions indicate that the Arab leaders have been aware of the gravity of the threats against their national security. Therefore, they equipped themselves with the utmost level of consciousness and seriousness during the summit's deliberations. This state-of-affairs appear to be characterising the new era in inter-Arab relations, and more than a top Arab official have indicated the offing of such an era. [sentence as received]

The Arabs have come to understand that strengthening their national security and achieving scientific and technological progress are the bases for a stability in the region. It is hard to imagine a stable and peaceful Middle East with the balance of power tilting in favour of Israel while the Arabs combined remain the underdog in a conflict where they are constantly at the mercy of the other party. If peace is to be achieved in this vital area, they must be on par with Israel in every field, including the arms industry.

To achieve this end, the Arabs have accepted the fact that they should unify their stances and policies in a world which does not respect weak mini-states. Hence, the coherent and positive resolutions of the Baghdad summit have put the Arabs on the threshold of an entirely new era characterised with stronger and more synchronized inter-Arab cooperation.

The Baghdad summit resolutions give the world a fresh indication that the Arabs are serious to achieve peace. In pursuit of such a goal, they have accepted all U.N. resolutions on the Middle East. They have gone as far as leaving the world to draw up a peace plan through an international conference on peace in the Middle East. They have been cooperating with all parties and bids towards achieving peace in the region while Israel has been keeping up its war-mongering attitudes and policies capitalising on the Arabs' patience and flexible attitude.

The 42-year-old Arab-Israeli conflict has witnessed four all-out wars and countless clashes and Israeli invasions of the Arab countries. Throughout these decades the Arabs have been telling the world that Israel is bent on expansion and that it will never accept peace until it establishes the "Greater Isreal", extending from the "Nile to the Euphrates". Such an argumentation, however, seemed difficult to be accepted by the backers of Israel who have been picturing the racist Jewish state as a "civilised" nation which wants to live "peacefully" among "aggressive" Arabs who want to "throw the Jews into the sea." Israeli arrogance appears to have reached an unbearable level because Tel Aviv persists in ignorning every peace bid. Until now, Israel has not even defined its borders with the hope of expansion. This state-of-affairs cannot go on for ever. Israel should know that by aggression and expansion it cannot gain a thing and that any future aggression against the Arabs will not go unpunished.

The resolutions of the summit is a well-studied and a balanced letter to the world that the Arabs are still for peace regardless of Israeli and American hostile attitudes. The world should seize the new Arab bid, otehe-rwise it will be too late.

Discussion Continues on Soviet Immigration Policy

Shamir Rejects 'Ultimatum'

TA0406111390 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1005 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Report by party affairs correspondent Shlomo Raz on Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's address before the annual meeting of Israeli industrialists in Tel Aviv "an hour ago"]

[Text] Mr. Shamir, in fact, rejected what could be perceived as an ultimatum by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, which would make continued aliyah conditional upon an Israeli assurance of one type or another that no new immigrants would be directed to the territories. The prime minister said it is clear to one and all no one directs the new immigrants anywhere and that, being a democracy, Israel gives everyone complete freedom to choose to live or settle wherever they want. Later, Yitzhaq Shamir made the following statement in the bluntest manner:

[Begin Shamir recording] If the Soviet Union of President Gorbachev does not believe that, in these times, it has the right to dictate to its citizens where to live or where to go, then it is as clear as day that we, pledged to democracy and freedom, cannot accept any limitations, or impose any limitations, on one category or another of settlers in the State of Israel, limitations that would tell them where they may and may not go.

We will not set up ghettos or confine people—new or more veteran immigrants—to pales in this country. [end recording]

These were the prime minister's remarks, and I believe they were stated in the clearest fashion. He opposed the USSR president's statements and refused to accept them.

Later in the political part of his address, the prime minister appealed to the United States, saying: We implore you to cut off ties with the terrorist organizations—if not for us, then for the sake of peace. Only this will make true negotiations for peace possible.

The prime minister added it is necessary to explain that the statements by al-Qadhdhafi and Saddam Husayn reflect the views of all the participants in the Baghdad summit, unless these participants explicitly took issue with these statements and can prove as much. So much for the political issue.

Later, as soon as he ended his address—and incidentally, he also referred to aliyah; preparations for it; the public agenda, which includes the absorption of immigrants and providing them with housing and jobs—he answered our questions on the coalition negotiations. The first question I asked him was when he would present his government:

[Begin recording] [Shamir] I cannot tell you the precise date, but it no doubt will be sometime early next week.

[Raz] You received a promise from Moledet today, so it is obvious this government will enjoy a 61-member vote.

[Shamir] It appears to be that way.

[Raz] Has the option of a national unity government been completely struck off the agenda at this stage?

[Shamir] No option is inadmissible. This is true until I present the Cabinet to the Knesset. Right now I am trying to form a government based on a majority of between 61 and 65 votes.

[Raz] Mr. Shamir, in light of Rehav'am Ze'evi's pledge, why will you not inform the president of your situation even today and present the new Cabinet this week?

[Shamir] I must complete things. I would like to present the president with something complete.

Arens: Halt 'Inconceivable'

TA0406123390 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Arens believes the Soviet Union will not change its emigration policy. According to him, Moscow knows Israel has no policy of resettling immigrants in the territories, and that the rate of immigrants settling there is negligible. Minister Arens noted, however, that Israel does not take Gorbachev's remarks lightly, and that it appreciates his policy enabling the free exit of Jews to Israel.

Arens added the trade agreement signed between the United States and the USSR is contingent on free emigration, and that halting the Jews' exit would be inconceivable.

Our correspondent Ze'ev Kohen reports Minister Arens made the remarks to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

Gorbachev Invited To Territories

TA0306163090 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Excerpts] In a joint news conference with President Bush in Washington, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev warned that he would reconsider the granting of exit visas to Jews if Israel does not provide guarantees that immigrants are not directed to settle in the territories. [passage omitted]

Reacting to the Soviet president's statement, Immigrant Absorption Minister Yitzhaq Peretz stated a few minutes ago that, on behalf of the Israeli Government, he invites President Gorbachev to come to Israel and tour Judaea and Samaria with him. This way, Minister Peretz told our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh, President Gorbachev will ascertain with his own two eyes that Israel does not direct immigrants to settle in the territories and does not conduct a policy of settling immigrants in the territories. [passage omitted]

Editorial on 'Dual Ultimatum'

TA0406131090 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 4 Jun 90 p 2

[Editorial: "In View of the Dual Ultimatum"]

[Text] We should not make light of the ultimatum Gorbachev made to Israel (to stop settling immigrants in Judaea and Samaria, otherwise emigration of Soviet Jews will cease), although the threat was apparently not meant to be implemented.

First, ending immigration is contrary to declared Soviet policy.

Second, the trade accord with the United States, which is Gorbachev's only real achievement during the current summit meeting, will not be approved by Congress if aliyah is harmed. The Soviets need that agreement very much.

We can therefore say that the ultimatum—the first presented to Israel by the USSR since Khrushchev's days—was merely meant to weaken Arab pressure on Moscow.

At the same time, however, we were presented with a U.S. ultimatum; although not exactly identical to the Soviet one, but armed with sharp teeth which are already biting! The United States has suspended the $400 million loan for immigrant absorption already approved by Congress "until a government is set up in Israel which guarantees that the funds will not be spent in the territories."

Add to these two practical moves the caustic call by the 12 EC countries for international involvement in the territories and it becomes obvious why, here in Israel, we feel under siege and that "the whole world is pitted against us."

Israel does not want confrontations. Quite the contrary. Politely and diplomatically, we reiterate the denial of a policy to divert immigrants to the territories. But it is all in vain. Both the Americans and the Soviets—who know the true facts—continue to sound the same tune.

The intentions are quite obvious. But how is Israel supposed to react? Should it "get up on its hind legs" and respond by rejecting the ultimatums out of hand? Should it initiate a hard-hitting information campaign? Should it conscript the few remaining friends we have in the world?

But who will go about doing it? The transitional government? A narrow-based government containing Rehav'am Ze'evi and Ge'ula Kohen? Will they find ways to talk with the Bush administration?

If there ever was a justification for a wide-based emergency government, it is now. But it seems that a decision has already been taken against such a government. The honorable alternative should have been new elections, because it is clear that neither the left nor the right has a mandate to govern. But elections mean freezing the current situation for at least another three to four months, and Israel simply does not have the time.

Therefore, while the entire world is ganging up on us we are facing an economic crisis and many immigrants who are waiting in line to come here must be absorbed. What is left for us to do? To concern ourselves with the pork law.

Officials on Gorbachev Statement

TA0506095590 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 5 Jun 90 p 1

[Report by Amir Neumann]

[Excerpts] Jewish Agency Chairman Simha Dinitz held a meeting in Jerusalem yesterday with Aleksey Chistyakov, the head of the Soviet delegation in Israel. The meeting was apparently devoted to the warning issued two days ago during the Washington news conference by the USSR president. It lasted about an hour and was held at the initiative of the Soviet envoy. No details about the content of the discussions were provided. [passage omitted]

State officials dealing with aliyah told DAVAR yesterday that several measures have been taken in the wake of Gorbachev's warning to explain to the Soviets the implication that the shutting of the Soviet Union's gates would have. If Gorbachev tries to make good on his warning, this will lead to a sharp reaction by the U.S. Administration and Jewish communities all over the world.

Envoy to Moscow Comments

TA0406113490 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1005 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Telephone interview with Arye Levin, Israel's representative in Moscow, by political correspondent Arye Golan—live]

[Text] [Golan] Mr. Levin, we would first like to know whether the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem has instructed you to transmit a message to the authorities in Moscow following the warning Gorbachev voiced in Washington regarding aliyah to Israel?

[Levin] I cannot address this issue. It is something that is exclusively between us and the government, unfortunately.

[Golan] What do you mean? Perhaps you cannot tell us what you were asked to say, but can you tell us whether Jerusalem has approached you at all on the matter?

[Levin] For the moment, we are waiting to see what actually happens here. We still do not know.

[Golan] Can you notice any changes?

[Levin] Not yet.

[Golan] Meaning that business is as usual? Is that true even in unofficial talks you hold with government personnel in Moscow? Have you not encountered some remarks or reservations in light of the fact that some new immigrants reportedly settle in the territories?

[Levin] We have heard many remarks and reservations, and this is no secret. This was made public knowledge and the head of state here, furthermore, addressed the issue in his news conference last night. Beyond that, nothing can be discerned in the field.

[Golan] I presume that by now that comment by Gorbachev has been given wide publicity. Today, Monday morning, can you say that there are more Jews seeking visas?

[Levin] No. Besides, as it happens, today is a holiday in the Netherlands. Since we operate from the Netherlands representation here in Moscow, we feel nothing. The offices here are closed today.

[Golan] So that in fact the doors have been closed for the past three days?

[Levin] Correct. Nonetheless, we will receive the public tomorrow. I think that so far no changes have occurred because even if they are felt, they will not be felt at once. I do not believe far-reaching changes of any sort will occur in the imminent future, because I cannot feel them coming.

[Golan] Yet as one familiar with the Moscow establishment—you have been in Moscow for a relatively long time—do you think Israel should be worried by a statement like the one Gorbachev made?

[Levin] This is undoubtedly a very significant announcement, made by the highest authority. It must therefore be given careful attention, which is something we are probably doing. Yet I cannot tell you what the statement means. Nor do I know whether the remark was based on accurate information or assessments, because there is no question that it does not reflect reality in Israel.

[Golan] Even if the remarks were not a true reflection of reality in Israel, still, as Israel's representative in Moscow, you are the one who is expected to tell whoever you need to tell in Moscow that indeed this is not true. Perhaps, then, there is something wrong in our information campaign?

[Levin] The problem is not our information campaign; the problem lies in the Soviet interests as they see them today and in our accessibility to these authorities. After all—and one should always bear this in mind—our representation is still not permanent or official. Our accessibility to the top political echelon is very, very limited. I therefore believe that there is room to explain things and try to approach those levels. I very much hope that if we come to them with this matter they would change their minds somewhat, or even more than that.

[Golan] Thank you very much, Arye Levin, our representative in Moscow.

[Levin] Shalom.

Data Issued on Settlement

TA0406173390 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] In the first five months of this year 192 immigrants from the Soviet Union settled in Judaea and Samaria—less than half a percent of the total number of immigrants. Last year 126 Soviet immigrants settled in Judaea and Samaria—mostly for the sake of reuniting families

This data was released by Immigrant Absorption Minister Yitzhaq Peretz during a media briefing, and reported by our correspondent Nava Kohen.

Immigrants Drop in May

TA0506070690 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 5 Jun 90 p 12

[Report by Herb Keinon]

[Excerpt] Of the nearly 40,000 Soviet immigrants who arrived since the beginning of the year, only 192 have gone to live in the territories, Absorption Minister Yitzhaq Peretz said yesterday.

Speaking to reporters after the weekly meeting of the interministerial committee on absorption, Peretz also said that only 126 of the nearly 13,000 Soviet immigrants who arrived in 1989 have settled in the territories.

Most of the 46,305 immigrants who have arrived since the beginning of the year are from the USSR. Ten per cent are living in Jerusalem.

For the first time in months, the number of immigrants who arrived in May was less than the number that arrived the previous month. The drop of 500 immigrants was due to the decision by Hungary's Malev briefly to stop charter flights of Soviet Jews to Israel. [passage omitted]

'Terror Attack' Prevented; 5th Car Torched

TA0106201890 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 1 Jun 90

[Text] This evening in southern Jerusalem, near the Commissioner Palace, a terror attack on the Mishkenot Haro'im Restaurant was prevented after four masked men placed a booby-trapped gas cylinder outside the restaurant. The police bomb squad detonated the explosive charge and no damage was caused. Our correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that a Border Police patrol noticed the masked men and chased them, but when they escaped the patrol returned to the restaurant and found the charge.

At the same time, a fifth car was set ablaze in Jerusalem today. A Peugeot pickup truck owned by an Israeli was gutted near its driver's residence in the Silwan neighborhood.

Likud Ministers Aim at Government 'This Week'

TA0306163790 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1600 GMT 3 Jun 90

[Excerpt] The Likud will continue to work for the establishment of a narrow-based government with the intention of presenting it as soon as this week. The meeting of Likud ministers made this decision this evening. The issue of a national unity government was not raised for discussion. [passage omitted]

Tzomet 'Latest Threat' to Shamir's Coalition

TA0406175990 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Report by Jack Katzenell]

[Text] The latest threat to the Shamir coalition is from the Tzomet party with its two Knesset Members [MK's]: Refa'el Eytan, known as Raful, and Yo'ash Tzidon. They are demanding that the government put through a law within three months to change the system of government—meaning electoral reform plus direct election of the prime minister. In addition, Tzomet is demanding a free vote on this issue—not only for itself, but also for all the other parties in the coalition.

The chief opponent of the reform bill is the ultraorthodox SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] party. Tomorrow the Likud is organizing a meeting between representatives of SHAS and Tzomet in an attempt to bridge the gap. But Raful says unless the Likud accepts Tzomet's demand, he and Tzidon will vote against the government when it is presented to the Knesset. SHAS and Tzomet are also rivals for control of the Israel Lands Administration.

Another headache for Prime Minister Shamir is the warning from Likud MK Uri'el Linn that if Avraham Sharir is appointed a minister, he, Linn, will not vote for the government. It will be recalled that after Sharir defected to Labor's side of the house, the Likud promised him the Ministry of Transport as an inducement to return.

Shamir has other problems inside the Likud. Having slated Moshe Arens for the Defense Ministry and David Levi for the Foreign Ministry, and promised the Finance Ministry to Yitzhaq Moda'i—also as an inducement to come back to the Likud—Shamir is offering the Housing Ministry to Ari'el Sharon. But Sharon wants the Immigrant Absorption Ministry added on to this. The present absorption minister is Rabbi Yitzhaq Peretz, who resigned from SHAS rather than desert the Likud alliance. He is not partial to being punished for his loyalty by being deprived of his ministry.

PLO Envoy in Cairo Criticizes Dennis Ross

TA1805151490 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 18 May 90 p 12

[Interview with Sa'id Kamal, "Palestinian ambassador" to Egypt, by unidentified correspondent in Cairo, date not given]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Correspondent] What is the status of the Palestinian-Syrian relationship in light of the renewed Arab solidarity?

[Kamal] We can describe it now as a period of calm preceding mutual understanding.

[Correspondent] Is there a possibility that Palestinian detainees in Damascus might be released?

[Kamal] This is what we hope from the Syrian authorities.

[Correspondent] HA'ARETZ reported that during a meeting between Abu-Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas] and 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid before the announcement of a government by Shim'on Peres, Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] called to say that he had information indicating that two Agudat Yisra'el Knesset members would not vote for Peres, and Abu-Mazin told him that he had received information from the office of Dennis Ross to the effect that Peres would succeed...

[Kamal] This report is baseless and fabricated. It is the writer's illusion. The story is that, through its information network, the PLO learned that Shim'on Peres was going to be tricked. This was conveyed by sources in the Jewish lobby in the United States. We did not know who was behind the trick. When Abu-Mazin came to Cairo it was confirmed to Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid. The Egyptian Foreign Ministry learned from official U.S. sources the following day that two Agudat Yisra'el Knesset members would not support Shim'on Peres.

[Correspondent] When was this?

[Kamal] Wednesday evening, that is before the Thursday on which voting was supposed to take place in the Knesset.

[Correspondent] But it has recently been reported in the Israeli press that the office of Dennis Ross informed you at that time that the Labor Party had succeeded in forming a narrow-based government.

[Kamal] This talk is unfounded. Dennis Ross is still opposed to the Palestinian people's aspirations and hopes, as well as to the PLO. He still believes that the PLO has no role whatsoever, and that a "national unity government" in Israel is the best means for Israel's protection. It is said that he supported Ari'el Sharon's visit to the United States to convince Rabbi Schneerson to foil a government headed by Peres.

[Correspondent] What do you have to say about Dennis Ross, and Kissinger's other students?

[Kamal] We are tired of talking about them. We leave it to President Bush and Secretary Baker to find out about them and their deeds.

[Correspondent] What is your view of the PLO's future strategy in the face of a narrow-based government headed by Shamir, Ge'ula Kohen, and Gandhi [Reha'am Ze'evi, Moledet party head]?

U.S. Veto 'Hostile Reply' to Summit Resolutions

JN0306071990 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 2 Jun 90 pp 1,24

[Editorial: "A Joint Hostile Reply"]

[Text] The United States confirmed the pessimitic view held by many people concerning its real intentions toward the Palestine question and the Arabs when it used the veto to abort an Arab draft resolution requesting the UN Security Council to dispatch a fact-finding mission to the occupied territories. This veto has come as a reward to the Israeli aggressors for the Black Sunday massacre and all the terrorist acts they are committing against the Palestinian people. The veto also serves as a green light to encourage these aggressors to commit more crimes. Furthermore, it expresses U.S. insistence on preventing the international community from playing any role to protect the Palestinian people from being annihilated, liberating their land, and laying the foundations of peace and stability in the region. So, it is becoming obvious that the United States is determined to play a monopolist role based on hegemony and imposing a fait accompli on the region; a role which is biased, hostile, and poses real danger to the nation and to peace prospects in the Middle East. It is noteworthy that Washington was not satisfied with all this, but also tried to blackmail the PLO through a concealed threat that unless it condemns the resistance against occupation it would stop the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue!! It is also noteworthy that Palestinian leaders in the occupied territory have replied to the hostile U.S. veto by deciding to stop all contacts with the U.S. Consulate in occupied Jerusalem and all U.S. figures who might be visiting the area.

We must warn that the charged atmosphere created by Washington's use of the veto and the attempt to blackmail the PLO is now coupled by an Israeli threat to strike at Libya on the allegation that it was behind the unsuccessful Palestinian fedayeen operation. This threat was made by the former chief of Israeli intelligence at a time when the Iraqi warning to respond to any Israeli attack on any Arab country is still echoing in the region. This shows that Washington, in collaboration with Israel, is pushing the region willy-nilly toward a dangerous atomosphere, difficult options, and an explosion which might not be controllable once it has occurred.

Therefore, the U.S. and Israeli behavior, which is increasing tension in the region, seems to be a joint hostile reply to the Baghdad summit resolutions. It also implies that Washington and the Israeli aggressors seek to forestall the fulfillment of any of the summit resolutions. In view of this evil attitude, the Arabs are called upon to be extremely cautious and to abide by the option of self-defense and the dignity of generations, because that would mean real defense of honorable peace.

Hope for 'Practical' Soviet Measures on Emigration

JN0406093890 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 4 Jun 90 pp 1, 24

[Editorial: "Gorbabachev's Statements: Words and Deeds"]

[Text] The Soviet-U.S. summit concluded with a press conference held by Presidents Gorbachev and Bush. What Gorbachev said at this press conference deserves to be examined, and stirs hope that words will be accompanied by deeds regarding the Jewish emigration issue. Firstly, we have to acknowledge that the Soviet president's statements are a genuine expression of human rights; any separation between the Palestinian and the Jewish human rights is a racist, unacceptable attitude by all standards. The materialization of values and principles cannot take place through aggressive practices that constitute the antithesis of these values and principles. Concern for human rights must stem—both ideologically and practically—from the fact that a human being is a human being regardless of religion, race, color, language, or geographic location. This has not so far been the principle that ruled the Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. On the contrary, this emigration was ruled by a racist and aggressive attitude toward the Palestinian Arab human rights.

Gorbachev has declared that if Israel adheres to its rejection of peace and the Palestinian rights, and if Israel goes ahead with its settlement policy in the occupied Arab territories and continues to resettle the Jewish emigrants in these territories, his country will reconsider the Jewish emigration issue. By this Soviet declaration, an important meeting point has been established between the Arab position that does not oppose Jewish emigration as a respected human right, and the Soviet position, which has discovered—albeit late—that this emigration and the ensuing settlement in the occupied Arab territories are a violation of human rights.

Because of the unlimited U.S. support for Israel in all fields, it is only natural that Washington's position will be aggressive and racist for both the Palestinians whose lives and territory are threatened and the Jews who are not willing to immigrate to Israel, albeit willing to leave the Soviet Union or East European states. Under these circumstances, unless a moral and humane Soviet policy is observed, this Jewish immigration will turn into a new incentive for more Israeli radicalism. This poses major and numerous dangers to Middle East and world peace.

Still, it is hoped that Gorbachev's statements will be accompanied by practical policies and decisions that remove the blemish of racism and aggressiveness from the Soviet immigration issue, which Tel Aviv and Washington are eager to maintain. It is also hoped that the humanitarian aspect of this immigration will be maintained. The primary prerequisite of this aspect is that emigration be free, not controlled, that emigrants not be resettled in the occupied territories, and that the doors of the United States and other industrialized states be opened to the Jewish emigrants. This is a justified hope in light of our eagerness—Arab and Soviet—about the relations of mutual respect which the hostile forces are trying to undermine.

[Kamal] This will increase the Israeli Government's international isolation, and will put the United States in a tight spot before the Arab world. [passage omitted]

Editorial on Israel's 'Challenge'

JN0506101190 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 5 Jun 90 First Edition pp 1, 13

[Editorial: "Would Gorbachev Give In?"]

[Text] The stand adopted by the Soviet leader during the Washington summit on Soviet Jewish emigration is a constructive one, for which he deserves thanks on behalf of the Palestinian people in particular, and Arabs in general, because it draws a definite line between the false human rights claims advocated by Washington and Tel Aviv and the reality of these rights where all human beings are equal without discrimination based on creed or color.

We clearly noticed during the brief press conference held by Bush and Gorbachev the Soviet leader's frankness and unwillingness to submit to the condition of transporting Jewish emigres directly from Moscow to Tel Aviv, when he said that he will keep the door open to emigrants as long as they do not settle in the occupied Arab land, and when he asked Israel for real guarantees not to settle them in those territories. On the other hand, Israel's declared stand is that these emigres have the right to settle wherever they want.

Today, Israel is challenging the Soviet leader to close the door to emigration or to implement the restrictions he spoke of at the Washington summit. The travesty of this challenge lies in the belittling of the Soviet Union by Israel.

Israel wants to involve the United States in the settlement of the Jewish emigres in the occupied Arab territories through the $400 million it has paid to settle them in Israel.

Israel also wants to push Moscow into an alliance with the United States hoping to deprive the Arabs of any international support such as that given by the Soviet Union.

Moreover, Israel wants the Soviet Union to accede to no restrictions or conditions on the Soviet Jewish emigration issue as long as the United States, through its financial, political, and military generosity, ensures support for the Israeli stand.

Israel has previously challenged and threatened the Soviet Union through Dayan and Shamir. It is regrettable that the United States, depending on its policy of force, has not said a word to defend the truth or even to save Israel from its own savage aggressive nature.

If today Israel is clearly challenging the Kremlin leader, then the coming days will reveal what we are still unaware of. The Soviet Union will either give in to the Israeli provocative logic or move to curb Zionist aggression in order to maintain the credibility of its stands toward the Arab World and the just and legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, and thus remain the hope of the Third World countries as a superpower promoting right, justice, and peace in the world.

Gulf Financial Aid To Arrive 'Within One Week'

JN0206131490 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Jun 90

[Randah Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Text] Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran has confirmed to our radio that within one week his country will receive financial support from the Gulf states in accordance with the resolutions adopted at the Baghdad summit. However, he noted that these states have not thus far fixed the amounts which they will give to Jordan. He added that the summit issued clear resolutions reflecting a full commitment to protect and defend Jordanian national security, considering that it is an integral and indivisible part of the Arab nation's pan-Arab security.

Badran affirmed that Jordan received unmistakably clear pledges from Arab leaders regarding the provision of aid to help it deal with its financial and economic problems. He reaffirmed that the amount of this aid has not been fixed. Badran valued the Iraqi measure of extending $50 million to support Jordan during 1990, despite the financial difficulties being faced by Iraq. He added that Iraq is considering the possibility of increasing this amount based on its ability to do so next year.

Israeli Border Forces on 'State of Alert'

NC0206072190 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0430 GMT 2 Jun 90

[Text] According to security reports from the South, the Israeli forces have been on a state of alert along the Lebanese-Palestinian border since Thursday [31 May] following the recent fedayeen operation on the Tel Aviv coast. AFP reported that about 600 soldiers and 150 armored vehicles are deployed along the border and enemy helicopters are continuously flying over the area.

Gunmen Attack Roadblock, Kill Two Policemen

NC0306060390 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 3 Jun 90

[Text] Gunmen riding in a car opened fire at a roadblock manned by Nasirite Popular Organization security policemen at the al-Amirikan triangle in 'Ayn al-Hulwah at dawn today, killing two policemen, Muhammad Salamah and Mahmud Rashid al-Gharbi. Contacts are being made to prevent any repercussions from the incident.

'Awn Reassures Pope: Guns Silenced 'for Good'

NC0306172990 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Jun 90

[Text] General Michel 'Awn has asserted that his reservations have disappeared in the face of the will of his holiness the pope. He said he has given the papal nuncio the freedom to start remedying the problem in the eastern area. He gave a reassurance that the guns have been silenced for good.

Meanwhile, Gen. 'Awn's military units fired two RPG's and bursts of machinegun fire at the Lebanese Forces positions in the vicinity of al-Jisr al-Wati at 1730 and 1737 this evening. Three shells were fired at the Lebanese Forces positions in Sinn al-Fil at 1845. This came after sniper fire was directed at the al-Sayyidah position. Heavy sniper fire and an RPG targeted the Lebanese Forces positions in Sinn al-Fil at 1910.

'Awn Calls for 'Excellent' Relations With Syria

NC0406120790 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] General Michel 'Awn has called for establishing excellent and fraternal relations with Syria. AL-NAHAR cites him as welcoming the Baghdad summit's resolution extending the Arab tripartite's committee mission. He said he hopes the committee will change its working method.

Syrian Source on Security Plan in West Beirut

JN0406203590 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Beirut—In an atmosphere of popular and official satisfaction, the Syrian Arab forces in the western part of Beirut have resumed their security measures in al-Musaytibah and vicinity. A Syrian security source said that the measures will continue and warned gunmen not to appear armed in the streets and neighborhoods or they will be fired on without warning. The source added that the security plan is being implemented without any obstacles to its success. [passage omitted]

Hizballah Marks Anniversary of Khomeyni's Death

NC0506100390 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] A rally was held at 1000 yesterday in Beirut's Southern Suburb to mark the anniversary of Imam Khomeyni's death. The rally was organized by Hizballah in front of Hizballah's Shura Council and was attended by some Council members, Political Bureau members, representatives of the Lebanese and Palestinian national forces, and a massive crowd of brothers and sisters.

Fu'ad Salman, deputy leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, spoke on the occasion and extended condolences on behalf of Minister Walid Junblatt. Salman said the imam's teachings provided the first force to tell Israel and America that our right to freedom and social justice is sacred and that we will never give it up to any oppressor or tyrant.

Speaking for the Islamic Jihad Movement in Palestine, Shaykh Sayyid Barakah praised the late imam's backing for the Palestinian cause. He attacked the Jordanian regime and the Arab regimes for their reluctance and cowardice. He added: Today they are trembling and kneeling down, but the outbreak of the Islamic revolution and the struggling intifadah clearly affirm that the artificial entities in the region could be broken.

Brother Abu-'Adnan [not further identified] spoke on behalf of the Palestinian Front for the Liberation of Palestine. He said the revolution of Imam Khomeyni, may God bless his soul, translated its slogans into deeds right from the beginning by turning Israel's embassy in Tehran into an embassy for Palestine and by extending support for all mujahidin.

Shaykh Muharram al-'Arifi of the Islamic Group praised the Islamic Republic's role in confronting the arrogant. He stressed that we are living an era of good versus evil.

Brother Zamanian, the Iranian charge d'affaires, stressed in his speech that the Islamic Republic will pursue the path of progress, stick to the teachings of the late imam, and stay independent of both East and West.

Hizballah's speech was delivered by Shaykh Na'im Qasim. He said our sacred imam has entered every home and stepped onto the world stage to change all the rules and to declare the establishment of the Islamic state. He emphasized that in Lebanon and Palestine, as in Iran before them, the oppressed will inevitably win and the arrogant will lose at the hands of the Islamic resistance and the intifadah strugglers.

The rally concluded with a speech by His Eminence Ayatollah Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah. Speaking on the late imam's life, he said he had known what he wanted right from the start. He made his calculations with strategy, not tactics in mind, so that tactics would not overpower strategy. He added: The imam warned that colonialism aimed to keep us away from our roots, and stressed that jihad against arrogance is as essential a duty as prayers and knowledge. Thus, he added, the material side in him was as complete as his spiritual side, and he managed to enter the nation's heart and stir its emotions.

Ayatollah Fadlallah concluded his speech by urging the need to resolve all the internal disputes and not to surrender to the United States. He noted that the people have a way of upsetting U.S. schemes and interests.

Sa'adah, Sasin Agree To Join Government

NC0506125390 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] Prior to the Lebanese presidential delegation's departure from Beirut [for Egypt], President Ilyas al-Hirawi and Prime Minister Salim al-Huss received Ministers George Sa'adah and Michel Sasin, who informed them of their final decision on participating in the government. The decision, however, has not yet been announced.

Sa'adah earlier chaired an extraordinary meeting of the Phalangist Party's Political Bureau, which had been convened to adopt a decision on this issue. Minister Michel Sasin joined the meeting before the two ministers left for West Beirut. It has been reported that the Phalangist Party's Political Bureau will resume its meeting this afternoon for further discussion and that it will issue a statement announcing the party's decision on the matter of Sa'adah's joining the government.

The speaker of the Chamber of Deputies just announced a short time ago that he had received Sa'adah and Sasin who informed him of their decision to begin their work in the government and make the required contribution to the governmental workshop, as he put it.

Junblatt 'Fears' on Palestinian Settlement Plan

NC0506131690 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] Minister Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, has expressed fears about the Palestinians. In an exclusive interview with AL-BAYRAQ newspaper and LA REVUE DU LIBAN magazine, to be published tomorrow, he said that it has become indisputably clear that the Palestinians wish to live on part of the mountain.

Junblatt added: We cannot do anything if the Israelis want to settle Palestinians in Lebanon and, at a later stage, install them in place of King Husayn in Jordan.

He said that the Palestinians possess considerable financial resources; and rich Christians, or rather rich Lebanese people, will emigrate. When that happens the Palestinians will be able to buy a poor Lebanon very easily.

Junblatt urged stopping all small internal wars and declared: The Syrians are the only ones who are able to assist us.

Junblatt said he believes that President Hafiz al-Asad has given numerous opportunities to Lebanese Maronites since 1976 but the Maronites did not know how to profit from these opportunities.

On the issue of opening al-Hadath-al-Shuwayfat road, and al-Kahhalah-'Alayh road, Junblatt said: We have no objection to this but no one has raised this issue directly with us. He added: The mountain is open to all the Lebanese and we prefer to live with the Christians who have been our historical neighbors.

He expressed the view that events in the eastern area are linked with a scheme to force a large part of the Lebanese to emigrate and to settle another people, the Palestinians, in their place. He remarked that events began in Jordan and for this reason the Lebanese must coordinate their efforts with the Syrians and even with King Husayn in order to confront this scheme.

Junblatt said he believes that the Vatican and the French support General 'Awn's attempt to find an honorable solution for himself. He denied that large quantities of weapons have reached Gen. 'Awn through the Syrians and said that these supplies have been merely tactical with the aim of one day reaching an understanding with the state or with what is left of the state.

Meanwhile, Kamal Midhat, chief of Palestinian military intelligence, has announced that he informed Minister Walid Junblatt that the Palestinians will not allow him to involve them in any marginal battle and will not mobilize any forces against those that he is mobilizing along the al-Awwali river.

New Ambassador to Moscow Approved

NC2805113590 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] The Soviet Government informed the Foreign Ministry today that the Soviet Union has approved the appointment of Salim Tadmuri as Lebanon's new ambassador to Moscow. He will replace Ambassador Mahmud Hammud, who has been transferred to the United Kingdom as Lebanon's new ambassador in London.

It is worth mentioning that Tadmuri formerly held the post of Lebanon's ambassador to Turkey.

Commentary on Gorbachev's Emigration Position

JN0406141590 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners: The position voiced yesterday by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in Washington, concerning discussing the possibility of halting the emigration of Soviet Jews if Israel continues to settle them in the occupied territories, confirms the pledge made by President Gorbachev during his talks with President Hafiz al-Asad in Moscow. President Gorbachev had said the Soviet Union would review the issue of emigration to take into account Arab human rights.

Undoubtedly, this Soviet position does not only put Israel's intentions to the test, which are already known, but also the intentions of the United States on this issue in particular. The United States, which has exercised, and still exercises, all kinds of pressure for the emigration of the Soviet Jews and for providing more facilities for their emigration under the pretext of human rights, pays no attention at all to the consequences of this emigration on the rights of the Arab individual to his land and destiny.

While President Gorbachev asks Israel for guarantees not to settle the emigrants in the occupied Arab territories, U.S. Secretary of State Baker implies that the commercial agreement with Moscow will not be signed if the latter implements its threat to halt emigration if settlement continues in those Arab territories.

Washington's satisfaction with declaring its opposition to settlement in the occupied Arab territories is not enough, and will not deter Israel. Guarantees must be provided, or emigration must be halted. This is because verbal opposition to settlement, when accompanied by the obstruction of any practical measure to deter it, only reveals Washington's attitude toward Arab human rights.

U.S. persistence on demanding the right of the Soviet Jews to emigrate from their original countries, and, at the same time, its refusal to recognize the Arab people's rights and the Palestinian man's right to self-determination, and its cover for Zionists' massacres against the Palestinian, constitute a violation of the most basic human rights and of the principles of the United Nations and civilized humanity.

The United States tarnishes its international reputation by its continued support for Israeli positions that deny Arab rights and which are based on oppression, tyranny, and terrorism to deny those rights.

President Gorbachev dotted the i's when he demanded guarantees in exchange for continued emigration. The United States must support and associate with this Soviet position to maintain its credibility—if it has any credibility left in the eyes of the Arabs and the world—and prove that it is really concerned about human rights for genuine humanitarian reasons, not for reasons that conceal biased political goals.

Arabs must close their ranks, in practice not just in words, and must pursue a united pan-Arab policy under the well-known maxim: We befriend those who befriend us, and antagonize those who antagonize us. The friend is known and the enemy is known. Changing this equation into antagonizing the friend and befriending the enemy will only bring misfortunes and disasters to this nation.

Soviet Middle East Stance at Summit Assessed

JN0406062390 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 4 Jun 90

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Middle East at the Washington Summit," TISHRIN says: What about the Middle East in the Washington summit talks, and how were the Soviet and American roles distributed vis-a-vis peace in the region and the situation in the occupied Arab territory? TISHRIN continues: The discussions on the Middle East were informal, revolving around general frameworks and principles. Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev was very clear about the formula for a solution to the Middle East crisis. Bush, meanwhile, was far from the essence and causes of the conflict as well as from the real and objective framework for a solution.

We can here define the Soviet view, as explained by Gorbachev in front of Bush, in the following points:

First, affirming the Soviet stance on halting the Jewish emigration; second, the Middle East problem can only be solved through international endeavors; third, the USSR's refusal to restore relations with Israel while instability and lack of peace still prevail in the region as a result of the Israeli rejection of and America's indifference toward a real, fair, and comprehensive peace in the region; fourth, exposing the Israeli policy aimed at embarrassing the USSR in front of the Arabs through settling the Soviet Jews in the occupied Arab territory.

Concluding, TISHRIN says: These Soviet pronouncements focus on the need to convene an international conference on the Middle East. Any other talk cannot lead to peace, but will exacerbate the situation. And the United States is always responsible for such exacerbation as a result of its support for Israel and the Israeli aggressive, expansionist policy.

AL-BA'TH Criticizes Bush Settlement Statement

JN0506085690 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 5 Jun 90

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Zionist Settlement and the Lame U.S. Position," AL-BA'TH says in its editorial today: U.S. President George Bush added nothing new to the U.S. terminology on the Palestine question and the

Arab-Zionist conflict when he told reporters at the conclusion of the recent Soviet-U.S. summit that the U.S. policy is clear and has remained unchanged regarding the building of new Israeli settlements in the occupied territories, and that the U.S. position is based on opposing any new settlements in the territories beyond the 1967 lines.

AL-BA'TH adds: This declared stand, which we always hear and which is repeated by U.S. diplomats all the time on all occasions, might be the actual official U.S. position. However, the settlement and eviction operations taking place in occupied Palestine and the Arab territories occupied since 1967 render this U.S. position a mere statement meant for public consumption—a statement that is devoid of any practical power that might influence the course of the hostile Zionist policy.

After reviewing the U.S. role in encouraging the emigration of Soviet Jews, defending this emigration, and also in securing all forms of support for this emigration, not to mention Washington's aid and assistance to Israel as well as the use of the veto right at the UN Security Council, AL-BA'TH wonders: How can the United States oppose such a dangerous part of the Israeli policy and at the same time continue to back it with funds and economic assistance directly and through indirect political efforts at the international forum? How are we to believe such a stand, and such a lame announcement, which belittles the Arabs' intelligence and fails even to convince children?

Analyzes Arab Options

JN0406214390 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 29 May 90 p 2

["News Analysis" by Jabarah al-Barghuthi]

[Text] There is much talk about a U.S. position promising peace. The Zionists are driving more than 2 million Arabs to an unknown destiny controlled both by the Jewish religious outlook and the mounting immigration. This immigration is going to jeopardize the right of these Arabs to work when the Jewish "masters" arrive to serve themselves or when "those Arab servants" become unfit to live on the land of the immigrants' forefathers—which now belongs to the Jews and no one else! With all this, we find that the current Jewish immigration represents, from a religious Zionist outlook, the natural alternative to the Palestinians, who will be gradually got rid of upon the orders and decisions of the servants and masters of the Jewish temples; that is, the rabbis.

The U.S. Administration knows all this and still supports it out of belief in Torah myths and the conviction that the Jews will only act as tools to serve U.S. interests as they paradoxically exist within a sea of Arabs, which puts Israel in the service of the United States and the requirements of its world strategy.

The United States frequently makes contradictory statements on peace, but it is convinced that Israel has the right to any land it can reach.

While the United States believes that the Romanian or Nicaraguan peoples, for instance, have the right to elect their leaders, it implicitly denies the right of two million Palestinians in the occupied territories to rule themselves; they must accept the "Jewish Zionist master" ordering and beating them and controlling their destiny and existence.

The question posed to the United States is: What about the destiny of 2 million Palestinians?

U.S. Administrations have not given any answer and they still believe that the answer can only be given by Israel.

The Arabs have a question to pose to the United States: If Israel is entitled to occupy, invade, and kill, are the Arabs not entitled to defend their existence?

The United States has answered this question by its words and actions.

It turned Israel into one of the world's major military powers. Israel now possesses nuclear and biological weapons and the most advanced conventional arms, satellites, and star wars weapons.

And yet the United States considers the possession of any advanced weapons by the Arabs to be a violation of the "peace efforts" and an unjust action against Israel.

The Arabs now have either of the following two options:

First, to recognize Israel's desire for occupation, slaughter, and expulsion against the Arabs and its threats to their security and peace.

Second, to determine to restore their rights, even if this endangers the security of the entire world. This is what the Arabs will resort to sooner or later.

The question is: Does Washington think that a new war in the Middle East will maintain U.S. interests in the region? If the Americans really think that their interests will not be harmed then they are wrong and naive.

It is noted that the contradictory U.S. statements have begun to reveal America's lies and charlatanism even further. The United States is in favor of international observers supervising some elections in some countries, but it is against international observers supervising a people being killed daily, with their sons arrested and their houses demolished. For Romania's elections, the United States sent 600 U.S. observers, and for Nicaragua's elections, it spent approximately $1 billion and recruited its top officials to supervise the elections.

But when the Arabs rightfully demand that international observers protect the lives of the children of Palestine, the United States refuses.

The United States, which is calling for the dispatch of an international fact-finding mission instead of international observers is the same United States which, two years ago, rejected a report by a similar international committee led by the Swedish diplomat Marrack Goulding [title and name as published].

The United States is not going to accept any conclusion arrived at by international investigators. What, then, is the use of a fact-finding mission? Do Israel's crimes need to be investigated when U.S. television and press are full of living examples of Israel's crimes?

The question is posed to the Arabs themselves.

Why should the Arabs satisfy all America's demands, beginning with Rogers' plan, going through the Camp David accords, Reagan's plan, Shultz' plan, and ending with Baker's plan, while Israel refuses to comply with the so-called U.S. wishes?

The world knows the answer to this question. All that the United States wants from Israel is to hold fast to its views. Had the United States wished to bring down any Israeli party, it would have done so; and had it wanted peace, it would have imposed it. The story of Dulles and Ben-Gurion on the withdrawal from Sinai in 1956 provides the amplest proof and the clearest evidence.

Paper on 'Satisfaction' With W. Beirut Security

JN0506102190 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 5 Jun 90

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Lebanese Satisfaction with the Syrian Security Measures, TISHRIN says in its "Behind the News" column: Lebanese quarters have continued to express satisfaction with and appreciation of Syria's stand in support of Lebanon, its security, and its stability. The paper adds: These quarters have also continued to welcome Syria's fraternal efforts to consecrate stability and peace in Beirut and its [southern] suburb. In their almost daily statements, these quarters are affirming that Lebanon's security is part of Syria's security and that this is taken for granted. They are also saying that Syria is helping Lebanon to regain legitimate authority and restore the unity of its land, people, and itstitutions.

TISHRIN adds: The overwhelming majority of the Lebanese people and their partisan, popular, and religious leaders believe that there can be no salvation for Lebanon except through reconciliation among the Lebanese, and also that the Lebanese have no alternative to strong cooperation with Syria in its sincere efforts to resolve the Lebanese crisis, impose the legitimate government's authority on all Lebanese soil, and liberate southern Lebanon from the occupation troops and agents.

The paper says: Syria, which has continued its sincere and fraternal efforts to resolve the Lebanese crisis, is firm in its stands. It has continued to enjoy the trust of the fraternal Lebanese people who know that Syria is eager to safeguard Lebanon's territorial integrity and preserve its dignity, security, and stability.

TISHRIN says: President al-Asad has affirmed this position on several occasions. He recently reiterated it to Egyptian reporters when he said: Syria's position is based on extending support to the legitimate government and supporting the al-Ta'if accord. Syria will respond favorably to the decisions made by the legitimate Lebanese institutions.

SANA Cites Iranian Envoy on Resolution 598

JN0206155990 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0830 GMT 2 Jun 90

[Text] Damascus, 2 June (SANA)—Mohammad Hasan Akhtari, ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Damascus, has stressed that his country has always wanted peace and reconciliation with Iraq based on the international resolution no. 598.

In a news conference last evening, the ambassador was asked about the contents of the second message sent by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani and about the Iranian reaction to Iraqi offers. He said he had no special details about the letter but expected it to contain generalities, as in the case of the first message.

Akhtari said that Iran, as announced by Majlis Speaker Mehdi Karrubi and all Muslims, was and still is in favor of peace and reconciliation.

In general, he said, differences are not in our interests as Muslims. We have been calling for peace and reconciliation, and we are continuing this at present.

The ambassador added: We want peace on the basis of complete seriousness, and we want reconciliation within the framework of the international resolution no. 598 under the supervision of the United Nations and, in particular, its Secretary General Javier Perez de-Cuellar.

At the end of his conference, the Iranian ambassador prayed that God would reunite the entire Islamic nation and expressed hope that the current state of no-war no-peace would end because it is neither in our interest nor in the interest of the region. He repeated: "We want peace within the framework of the international resolution no. 598 and under UN supervision."

The Iranian ambassador denied any current Palestinian mediation between Iran and Iraq.

Afghanistan

Najibullah Meets French, FRG Journalists

LD0506074890 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] Kabul, June 4, BAKHTAR—Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan (RA), received in the headquarters of the presidency Demi Moirei, correspondent of the French daily LE FIGARO for a press conference today.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reported that during the interview, the Afghan leader responded to his questions relating to the politico-military situation in the country, successful termination of the Loya Jerga (Grand Assembly) and on the amendments made in the Constitution of the RA.

According to another report President Najibullah received in his office Mustafa Danesh, correspondent of the FRG television for a press interview later today.

During the interview the Afghan president responded to the questions of that journalist raised on changes made in some articles of the Constitution and the politico-military situation here.

Suggests French Role

AU0506095490 Paris AFP in English 0913 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] Paris, June 5 (AFP)—Afghanistan's President Najibullah has invited France to play a role in finding a solution to the Afghan conflict, while criticizing U.S. support for the mujahidin. In an interview published in the daily paper LE FIGARO Tuesday, he said France "has the credibility and the prestige to play a role in the solution of the Afghan problem, perhaps even as a mediator bringing Afghans around a table." "The historic and cultural relations" between the two countries and the "realism and rational mind of the French leaders" makes French participation desirable, he said.

President Najibullah was critical of the United States which has made his departure from office a precondition to finding a solution in Afghanistan. "One can't separate from the negotiations the main political force of the country," he said. "It is a question of realism, a realism to which America must accommodate itself," he said. He was also critical of Washington for supplying mujahidin guerillas with "arms of massive destruction, such as rockets and fragmentation bombs" which were used against civilians.

The Afghan president said that the multiparty system was the "basis of our political system" and the "process of coalition and reconciliation will increase again with the blossoming of democracy." "Free elections are the only solution to the Afghan problem," he said.

Prime Minister Khaliqyar Holds News Conference

LD0406172390 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 3 Jun 90

[News conference with Afghan Prime Minister Fazl Haq Khaliqyar in Kabul on 3 June—recorded]

[Text] [Khaliqyar] Esteemed journalists: You, as active, sound, and responsible servants of society and the country, are very dear to us. We have great respect for you. You deliver the people's grievances to the attention of the responsible authorities and refect the people's demands and requirements. You reveal and publicize the shortcomings, weaknesses, and deficiencies of government bodies and state employees. Your job is truly valuable and worthy.

I would never be able to talk about democracy, freedom [word indistinct] without having a free and sound press. I have emphasized freedom of the press in the government's policy, and in practical terms too. My government supports and backs freedom of speech. We respect journalists. We do not fear the press. We are the servants of the people. We want to know what the people want from us. We will do whatever the people want. We will refrain from those tasks which the people dislike. It is your duty. You are the link between the people and the government [words indistinct].

The more you carry out your duty with bravery, boldness, and a sound conscience, the more you will enjoy our respect and the people's. I will personally be very pleased if you make us the focus of your criticism. We have many shortcomings and deficiencies. We might not notice them. You should warn us. You should listen to the people and convey what they say to us. We will be very pleased. After this brief introduction, I am ready to answer your questions. Any questions please.

[BAKHTAR correspondent] Have you taken any urgent measure to improve the economic or social situation?

[Khaliqyar] We attach great value to the people's demands. During the three days of the vote of confidence, we heard the demands and requirements of the Afghan people through their representatives. We have urgently instructed the Ministry of Planning to assess the present possibilities and to draft a program in order to meet the vital demands of the people of Afghanistan from the economic and social standpoint. This program will be ready in a few days and will be put at our disposal. Then we will implement it. As we pledged to the Assembly, we will report on the government's activities in three months time, both to the Wolasi Jerga and to the Afghan people through you. We will not wait for foreign assistance. Naturally, we need it. We are a poor country. We require both money and financial and technical resources. We hope to receive such assistance. Until that assistance is available we will use whatever we have.

[Unidentified correspondent] Esteemed Prime Minister, coincidentally my question is on freedom of speech. You

referred to it both in your government's policy and in your speech today. I am confident that your government will deal with the freedom of the press without any fear. If you can tell us what type of mechanism will be established within the government to ensure freedom of speech on the one hand and on the other hand how it will deal with criticism so that state bodies will take measures to handle it?

[Khaliqyar] As we mentioned in our policy, an organ will be formed within the framework of the Council of Ministers. This will assess the people's proposals, views, and criticism and also that of the mass media. Then, measures should be taken to deal with the shortcomings and meet the demands of the people and should be conveyed to the people through you.

[Afghan Radio-TV correspondent] Esteemed Prime Minister, taking this opportunity, I would like to ask you if your government will fulfill its duties in close cooperation with the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] or in a direct form? The structure of the cabinet shows that two-thirds of its members are independent personalities from our society.

[Khaliqyar] Our government is a national reconciliation government, a government of national unity. The PDPA members are also from among [word indistinct] of Afghanistan. We request the same from all members of other political and social parties, including the groups which live abroad, from all our brothers inside and outside the country to cooperate with the state. This homeland belongs to everyone and should be run by everyone and everyone should embark on its construction.

[KABUL TIMES correspondent] Mr. Prime Minister, in your policy you declared a campaign against bureaucracy as an import task in order to close the gap between the people and government. Please explain this?

[Khaliqyar] You know as we do that the Afghan people are dissatisfied with the existing administration. People are wandering and their work is not being done on time and people's complaints are not dealt with quickly. A number of people, of course a limited few, misuse this opportunity for their own interests. We have said this in our policy and started a campaign against such things. At present, too, a series of measures are under way. A number of the known persons who are famous for their misconduct will be questioned after the facts are established. This policy line will continue. We will not spare anyone and shall not give concessions to anyone. We do not have any fear in this connection.

[Announcer] Allow me, on behalf of the esteemed journalists, to thank you for the interview. Thank you.

Six Killed, 29 Injured in Kabul Missile Attack

LD0406155690 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Again today the extremists fired 25 surface-to-surface U.S. Sakr and cluster type missiles on the residential areas of Kabul city. As a result of this six Kabul citizens were martyred and 29 others including women and children were injured.

The BIA [BAKHTAR International Agency] military section reports that the injured were transported to hospitals immediately and were taken in for serious treatment and observation.

The missiles which were fired from the west and northwest landed on the fourth, fifth, sixth, ninth, and tenth wards of Kabul city and caused considerable and costly damage.

The mines spread as a result of cluster missiles were cleared and defused by security personnel.

Agriculture Minister Signs USSR Aid Protocol

LD0306083490 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0448 GMT 3 Jun 90

[Text] Kabul, June 2, BAKHTAR—Engineer Muhammad Ghofran, minister of agriculture and land reforms of the Republic of Afghanistan (RA), and the economic counsellor of the embassy of the Soviet Union to Kabul today signed a protocol on the granting of 10,000 tonnes of improved sowing wheat as gratis aid for the Soviet Union to the Afghan side, here in Kabul, reports a BAKHTAR correspondent.

The said gratis aid of the USSR is due to be delivered to the side of the Republic of Afghanistan in the Hairatan and Shierkhan ports of the RA till August 1st, 1990.

Soviet Friendship Delegation Arrives in Kabul

LD0406180890 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] A Soviet-Afghan Friendship Society delegation, headed by the deputy chairman of the society, arrived today in Kabul for an official visit at the invitation of the Afghan Peace, Solidarity, and Friendship Organization. According to another report, the delegation today met with Basir Ranjbar, head of the Afghan Peace, Solidarity, and Friendship Organization, and with the leadership board of Afghanistan [as heard], and talked about matters of interest.

India

Officials Comment on Kashmir Situation, Pakistan

Prime Minister on Easing Tension

BK0506092190 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] The prime minister has described the G-15 summit as a success. He was speaking to newsmen soon after his return to New Delhi from Malaysia this afternoon. Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh said that G-15

developing countries have agreed on an action plan to have a combined strategy for their approach toward the North-South dialogue.

When asked whether there would be a summit meeting with the Pakistan prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, Mr. V.P. Singh said India has offered a package of measures to ease the tension between the two countries. He expressed the hope that the response from Pakistan will be positive. One act of good faith on the part of Pakistan will change the entire situation and the whole issue will be solved. The prime minister reiterated that India wants good relations with neighboring countries.

On Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab, the prime minister said that clear-cut measures have been taken to solve the problems in these states. The governors in these states have been given a free hand to tackle the problems. Efforts are being made to involve the people in solving the problems.

Earlier, the prime minister said he is not averse to the idea of a national government provided it is based on national consensus. Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh said such a government should not be individual-oriented, but must be in the interest of the nation. The prime minister made these observations when he was asked to comment on reports that some members of his party have said they would support the idea of having a national government. Mr. V.P. Singh pointed out that in the election manifesto of the Janata Dal, the issues on which a national consensus could be arrived at have been mentioned. These are, he recalled, labor participation in management, bringing of land reforms laws under the ninth schedule of the Constitution, electoral reforms, and autonomy for the media. He pointed out that the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] and the left parties are supporting the National Front on these issues. Answering a question, he said the support of these parties has been a great help rather than a handicap for the government.

Our special correspondent, Prabhakar Mishra, reports that the prime minister's observation came during his informal chat with newsmen on board the special aircraft on his way back to New Delhi from Kuala Lumpur.

Answering a question, Mr. V.P. Singh clarified that he has not discussed with the members of his party about the formation of a national government.

When a newsman asked whether any pressure is put on the government, the prime minister quipped: Without pressure, one becomes complacent. In this context, he cited the example of the Congress-I reverses in the last elections. Mr. V.P. Singh asserted that his government was able to secure a consensus on major issues.

About the Bofors gun deal, the prime minister said the government has been able to freeze the bank accounts in connection with the deal.

Gujral on End to 'Subversion'

BK0306035090 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Jun 90

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr. Inder Gujral, has said that Pakistan has confessed to some international authorities that it is responsible for subversion in Kashmir. In an interview with the Malaysian national news agency BERNAMA in Kuala Lumpur, Mr. Gujral said Islamabad has also promised those authorities that this will be stopped. If this is done, it will open a new chapter of cooperation and friendship between the two countries, he said.

The minister reiterated that India will never go to war with the Kashmir issue, but at the same time New Delhi cannot dismiss lightly the flow of arms, narcotics, and terrorists into Punjab and Kashmir.

Mr. Gujral also pointed out that although Pakistan has moved its troops into the border, India has exercised restraint so far to avoid a flare up. He disclosed that India is also taking some initiatives to defuse the situation.

Officials Say 4 Soldiers Killed

BK0406153190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1508 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Jammu, India, June 4 (AFP)—Pakistani troops Monday [4 June] shot dead four Indian soldiers on the border in Kashmir as seven people died in renewed Muslim militant violence elsewhere in the region, Indian authorities said.

The Indian soldiers were killed when Pakistani troops without provocation fired from across the line of control at different places in Poonch border area of Kashmir Monday, defence officials said.

They gave no details of the incidents on the control line set up at the end of the third and last India-Pakistan war in late 1971. Nor did they say whether the Indians had returned fire as they usually do.

Meanwhile, Muslim militants threw a powerful hand grenade in a raid on a paramilitary post in Srinagar Monday, the officials said, adding two troopers were killed in the attack in the summer capital of northern Jammu and Kashmir state.

Elsewhere in Srinagar, suspected militants shot dead an unidentified civilian and hanged two more on trees at different places Monday, the officials said.

In another incident in Srinagar, paramilitary troopers opened fire and shot dead two people and injured two more when suspected militants threw hand grenades at their post Monday, they said.

Witnesses said a six-year-old child was among the dead in the firing at Srinagar's Ranawari locality.

Muslim militants, fighting for the secession of Kashmir from India, meanwhile telephoned journalists and

claimed that they had killed a dozen people in a hand grenade attack on a van carrying personnel from the elite National Security Guards in Srinagar's Nogam area.

There was no official confirmation of the claim.

More than 600 people have died in violence linked to the militancy in Jammu and Kashmir, mostly in the state's Muslim-majority Kashmir Valley, so far this year.

UN Envoy Comments on U.S.-USSR Arms Accords

BK0506075790 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] India has welcomed the nuclear arms control agreements between the United States and the Soviet Union at the recent Washington summit, but has called for a more comprehensive test ban treaty for curbing the nuclear arms race.

Speaking at a UN committee, India's representative, Mr. C.R. Gharekhan, regretted that these agreements do not prohibit the upgrading of the existing weapon systems and some of them even specify the permitted areas for further improvements. He said only a comprehensive test ban treaty could effectively impede the development of a new generation of nuclear weapons. This is because experts have maintained that nuclear weapons testing is no longer indispensable for ensuring validity and credibility of nuclear stockpiles.

Gandhi Congratulates Burmese Election Victor

BK3005134890 Delhi External Service in Burmese 1130 GMT 30 May 90

[From the "Current Myanmar Affairs" program]

[Text] Dear listeners, we have chosen to present to you a news item carried by the HINDUSTAN TIMES today, 30 May. The news item headlined "Rajiv Gandhi Felicitates Suu Kyi," is about Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, the former Indian prime minister, congratulating Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, general secretary of the National League for Democracy, for her party's resounding victory in the recent elections.

Mr. Gandhi's message says: We take great pleasure in extending to you our best wishes and congratulations for the brilliant and phenomenal victory scored by the National League for Democracy despite the very difficult and intricate circumstances that were facing it. We welcome with profound satisfaction your victory which will help restore democracy in Myanmar [Burma].

It is with pleasure that I take this opportunity to inform you, Madame, that soon after the official results of the elections were received, our Congress-I Party issued a declaration in parliament congratulating the Myanmar people and expressing our jubilant support for the victory of democracy in Myanmar.

Mr. Rajiv Gandhi said: We are firmly convinced that the key task of the military now is to hand over as soon as possible the state administrative power to the representatives of the people. It is also important to release detained political prisoners immediately. Only when these two tasks have been undertaken would we be confident that democracy has been fully restored in Myanmar.

Mr. Gandhi continued: The Indian National Congress party has had very close relations with the people of your great nation. Prior to 1967, many famous people from Myanmar were members of the Indian National Congress Party. These people had contributed to the independence struggle of India and Myanmar.

In recent times, the relations between India and Myanmar have not been up to the expectations of our two peoples, nor were they as gratifying as they should be for two nations that share geographical proximity and similar cultural backgrounds. However, the future of our bilateral relations and cooperation look very bright with Myanmar's return to the family of democratic nations.

We are convinced that the bonds of friendship that have existed since time immemorial between our nations will develop further into relations that are worthy of two friendly neighbors.

While sending our good wishes to you, Madame, we also extend our salutations to the martyred General Aung San and the other great leaders who laid down their lives in the struggle for independence. These great martyrs struggled gloriously to liberate Myanmar from the yoke of slavery and succeeded in attaining independence for the country. They are genuine heroes of the people.

To express my personal sentiments, Madame, let me invite you to work together toward the strengthening and nurturing of the bonds of friendship that existed between my grandfather and your father.

Burmese Poll Results 'Welcome'

BK3105134490 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 31 May 90

[Dr. Chintamani Panigraphi commentary: "Elections in Burma"]

[Text] The results of May 27th Burmese elections may be termed as one of the political miracles of recent years. It came as a surprise to some and as a welcome development for others. The clear-cut victory of the democratic forces not only dealt a blow to the military regime, but also pleased the Burmese people who were anxiously waiting for their turn after the success of democratic movements in the Philippines, South Korea, and more recently in Nepal. India played its own modest role in Burma as it had done in the past in Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Maldives in encouraging and, wherever possible, assisting the movements for democratic rights. As the Burmese military regime ruthlessly suppressed a popular

movement for a democratic government in 1988, India along with Japan and the United States soon imposed trade sanctions against Burma. General Ne Win formally stepped down, and a State Law and Order Restoration Council, SLORC, under the leadership of Saw Maung took over. But Ne Win continued to pull strings. The human rights violations continued as well. India lashed out at human rights abuses in Burma last year as the issue came to be discussed at the United Nations and then expressed its dismay over the house arrest of important opposition leaders by the SLORC.

This political miracle however still contains the destructive ("feat) that can turn it into a mirage. The Burmese military appeared to have had a great hope of providing their legitimacy by holding the election. It did not indulge in open rigging for fear of losing that legitimacy but adopted other sinister methods to deceive the opposition parties. The government restored [as heard] to redistributing the opposition parties' urban power base by adopting a crude form of gerrymandering and most of the important leaders were kept under house arrest. Since the opposition itself was divided with more than 90 political parties contesting the elections, the regime thought the above measures were enough to ensure the victory of the government-backed National Unity Party. But the military regime's hopes were belied. Even after the clear indications of the victory of democratic forces, one is not certain about the prospects of democracy in that country. The regime is not going to transfer power to the elected civilian hands until a new constitution is drawn up and supposedly accepted by the military. This process may take years and that simply means the international community may still have to deal with this present regime.

Can the lovers of democracy of Burma expect some help from abroad? So far, the record of external pressure on the military regime of Burma is not impressive. Japan came to do business with Burma within months of establishment of the SLORC. So did Australia. China resumed its assistance to Rangoon. By November last year, foreign companies such as Amoco and Unocal of the United States, (Petrocanada), (Crot Exploration) of Britain, Shell of Holland, BHP of Australia, and (Ejimekesu) of Japan were back to their business in Burma. If everyone just means business, democracy in Burma may become a distant reality. But the changes in the international environment, including the one in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, hold promise for the Burmese people.

Developments in Burma are one of the great concerns to India. Burma borders India along the land frontiers and faces the Bay of Bengal and Andaman Island group as well. During decades of military rule in Rangoon, Indo-Burmese relations remained strained. India welcomed the result of multiparty elections in the Republic of Myanmar, Burma, and stressed that it was important that power should be transferred to the elected representatives of the people forthwith. A Foreign Office spokesman congratulated the National League for Democracy and its leader, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, who has scored such an impressive victory. Prospects of democracy in that country were promised for the betterment of the relationship between Rangoon and New Delhi. India cannot only assist Burma in its economic reconstruction program, but also can improve political relations with it; maybe, by encouraging it subsequently to join SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation].

'Terrorists' Kill Punjab Intelligence Chief

BK0506043190 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] In Punjab terrorists shot dead the superintendent of police of the intelligence bureau, Mr. Nanchata Singh, in Chandigarh last night

According to the police sources, two car-borne terrorists went to the house of Mr. Singh after 10:00 pm. They dragged him out of the house and pumped bullets into him. Mr. Singh was rushed to the hospital where he was declared dead.

9 'Terrorists' Killed

BK0506090390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] In Punjab, 16 persons, including three terrorists, were killed in separate incidents last night. In Kapurthala District, three terrorists were killed in an encounter with the police in (Chaheru) late last night. In another incident in the district, terrorists gunned down three persons, including two women in Brahmawal Tandi village.

In Amritsar District, terrorists shot dead nine persons, including four members of a family and a member of village defense force, in separate incidents last night.

In Bhatinda District, a watchman of the bus stand was shot dead by the terrorists in Mahsa Town.

Six more hard-core terrorists were killed in an encounter with security forces in Ferozepore District this morning. The state police chief, Mr. K.P.S. Gill, told All India Radio Chandigarh correspondent that the encounter which is continuing when reports last came in followed a raid on the terrorist hideout in village Dera Basti Ramlal near Mannawala.

2 Killed in Srinagar; 4 'Subversives' Arrested

BK0406161190 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] In Srinagar, terrorists shot dead two persons during the curfew relaxation period in the day today. The security forces arrested four subversives belonging to the outlawed Hezbul Mujahidin terrorist group in Srinagar today. One pistol and some cartridges were recovered from them. The situation elsewhere in the valley remained normal and no other untoward incident was reported from anywhere.

12 June Set for INSAT-1D Satellite Launch

BK3105145690 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 31 May 90

[Text] The stage is set for the launching of the prestigious multipurpose Indian National Satellite—INSAT-1D—on the 12th of next month. The three-in-one satellite has already been moved to the Kennedy Space Center in the United States for mating with its Delta launcher. INSAT-1D, which will replace the dying INSAT-1B, had suffered a year's delay as it was damaged while mating with its launcher in June last year. A crane hook hit the top portion of the spacecraft which houses the C-band antenna. The successful launching and operationalization of the INSAT-1D is vital to the country in the light of INSAT-1C losing earth lock following a power problem. After a series of crucial maneuvers, the spacecraft will be placed at its allotted slot, about 36,000 km above the earth in geostationary orbit.

Iran

Khamene'i Speaks on Imam's Death Anniversary

NC0406103090 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0620 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Speech by Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i at a ceremony at Behesht-e Zahra Cemetery in Tehran to mark the first anniversary of Khomeyni's death—live]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] The 4th of June is a day in the history and the long past of the Iranian nation which will never be forgotten. Among the various incidents and the bittersweet events, there was perhaps never a day so bitter and soul-rending as this day for the nation. Those who analyze and study events in Iran today, and those who will in the future study the events of the years after the victory of the revolution and during the era of the Iranian nation's great test, may be unable to completely fathom and understand the sentiments shown by the people on this day and the form that this day adopted in the people's history and life. [passage omitted]

Today I want to focus the attention of the Iranian nation, the Muslim nations in the world, and all those in the world who have heard something about our revolution and our great Imam Khomeyni on one point. [Chants of "God is great"] I would like to say one thing about our revolution and about the influence that the acts of this pious man had, which form the basis of our movement. We are living and struggling and moving on this basis. The point is that with the Islamic revolution in Iran, with the formation of the Islamic system in this part of the world, and with the long struggles that our nation carried out behind its great leader in order to safeguard the revolution and Islam, a new era emerged in the world. This new era has special characteristics that are different from past eras. A new era has been created with characteristics that are peculiar to it. And whether the materialistic powers of the world want it or not, and whether the United States wants it or not, this era has begun in the world and has progressed. The impact of this new era is perceptible on the nations, on weak governments, on strong governments, and on the superpowers.

When a new era starts in the history of mankind, no one can be immune from its impact. The same applied to the history of mankind. No one can distance himself from the impact of an era which has begun in the world and which has strong divine and humanistic principles. We want to declare this. Even though many nations and governments have been influenced by this new era—and the world's political map has even changed with it—we do not expect the major political analysts of the world to confess that this era has begun. Even though they do not confess that a new era has started, they have been influenced by this era and can feel it. This new era should be named the era of Imam Khomeyni. [Chants of "God is great"]

This era has several special characteristics. One is the expansion of religious beliefs and faith. After the policy of power and the system of world domination which aimed to erase religion and spirituality from people's lives and to nurture a world society lacking religion, faith, and belief in divine values, the new era moves in the exact opposite direction. Not only in Iran and in Islamic countries, but throughout the world religious belief has begun to grow among societies which had been opposed to religion. Spiritual belief and spiritual inclination in the future under this movement will be deeper, healthier, more pure, and more in conformity with human nature, and will be attractive to more nations.

Gone are the days when religion and spirituality were negative values and were scorned. Today, being without religion, faith, and spiritial belief is a negative value. This has happened in many parts of the world, and it will happen in many other parts, too. This is one of the special characteristics of this new era whose banner was hoisted in the world by this great man. At a time when no one believed, he sparked off the movement and made hearts focus their attention on it.

Another characteristic which marks this new era is the fact that the value of human beings and the effect of the presence of the masses are given a meaning. In the new era which our imam began and which is not limited to Iran, the masses are the major factor. They are the determining power and the decision makers. They are the ones who direct currents.

We know of many revolutions in the past which progressed with the people's sentiments. But today the situation is different. Today, in a world which surrendered to the dominating powers and did not express their free will for decades after World War II, we suddenly see the masses in East Europe moving on the same pattern and entering the arena that was used by our Muslim nation in confronting and struggling against the despotic monarchy. The humanistic characteristic of this new era is the victory of blood over the sword. In this new era, as was the case in Iran, each and every person who comes into the arena without arms and weapons and only with

his life and soul is confronting usurping and oppressive rulers. This method is a recognized method in the world today. The strength of the presence of unarmed masses has become obvious in the world today. After this, the powers should know that nowhere in the world can they continue their rule contrary to the will of the masses. The more this wave spreads in the world, the more difficult it will be for illegal, oppressive, and inhuman domination. This was the movement that our great imam started in Iran and that has been upheld by the alertness and faith of this nation. This movement became a pattern for the world. Thus, you see that after years of the oppression, the Palestinian nation is rising within the Palestinian territories and that despite the harshness of the usurping and despotic Zionist government they are progressing.

Among the other characteristics of this new era which our great imam and our revolution started in the world is the principle of freedom from the domination of big powers and from their occupation and influence. In other words, this is exactly what has come to be known in our revolution as the principle of neither East nor West. [passage omitted]

This new era which our imam started with his uprising, with his steadfastness, with his belief in God, with his respect for spiritual values, and with his trust in the people is an era which, God willing, will save nations from domination and will hasten the downfall of the world's materialistic powers. [passage omitted]

What is the duty that our nation and we—the followers of this great man, each and every person who were the students of this great teacher—have? Today the world has focused its attention on the Iranian nation, as last year on this very day all sensitive eyes and hearts around the world were focused on Tehran. When the news [about Khomeyni's death] was made public, friends and enemies were surprised and in anticipation. The friends had one motive, and the enemies another. We should not think that one year has decreased the significance and sensitivity and the weight of our duty. No. The more time that passes, the heavier the burden of responsibility on those who consider themselves to be the followers of that great man and those who are led by him.

The world today has turned its attention to the Iranian nation. We, the Iranian nation should be able—under the aegis of Islam, by relying on Islam and on the Koran, and toward the directives of our late great imam—to move faster toward the lofty aspirations of this revolution. We should not hestitate even for one moment. We should know that the wounded enemies and those who hoped that Islam would be wiped off the face of the earth, and despite whom Islam has spread more and more in the world each day, continue to lie in wait to see us hesitate for one moment. Therefore, hesitation is forbidden. The Iranian nation should disappoint the enemies—America, reactionary forces, and those who have been wounded [in the revolution]—in their attempt to tamper with the revolution by displaying strength and steadfastness, by relying on God, by resorting to complete unity, by participating in the general construction of the country, and with alertness. [chants of "God is great" and "Death to Israel"]

World arrogance fears the Iranian nation, as all culprits and brigands fear brave and alert human beings. If you see that the Saudi Government and the Hejaz rulers close the door to the house of God to our nation and deprive our nation of its pilgrimage rights, this is because America is afraid of our nation. The simple-minded should not think that the slogan of Death to America during the hajj pilgrimage. [sentence as heard] What is it? How does this shout and cry affect the bases of the usurping domination of America and Israel? If it were not for the destructive effect of these slogans, if it were not for the determining effect of the just cry of our nation against world domination, so much hostility would not be shown toward our nation.

The hajj pilgrimage, the pilgrimage to the house of God and to the holy grave of the Prophet, are things our nation sincerely wants and the right of our nation. The house of God belongs to His beings. As far as the house of God is concerned, there is no difference between the people who are living in Mecca and the Muslims who go there from all parts of the world. The house of God is the refuge for His beings. Why are they preventing our is nation? It is because of the slogan of Death to America and Death to Israel. This is the very impact of the people's presence and the victory of blood over the sword.

The meaning of this behavior by America and the Saudi rulers—who unfortunately implement America's policies in detail and take America's interests and not their duties and the interests of a Muslim nation into consideration—is because the slogan of Death to America and Death to Israel and the slogan of the unity of Muslims which is one of the characteristics of this very era that was started by the imam are destructive to arrogance and to world hegemonists. They cannot tolerate these.

O brave and great Iranian nation: During the life of your great imam you passed the test successfully. You moved behind the Imam and followed each of his footsteps. You did not tire. You did not tire from the difficulties that the enemies imposed on you, the Iranian nation, with the intention to tire you. From the onset of the revolution's victory, the definite policy of America and its allies was and still is to do anything possible to tire the Iranian nation. But you did not tire from the economic siege. You did not tire from the imposed war. You did not tire from the insults of babblers who were the spokesmen for world arrogance. You showed that you are alert, pious, sincere, and a worthy nation; and God Almighty chose you, the Iranian nation, to be the first base for the flame of Islamic zeal and morality during the domination of materialism because of these special characteristics.

After the demise of the imam you, the great, brave, and alert nation passed the test very successfully. Eyes throughout the world looked at you with great awe. All or

most of our enemies in the world expected the revolution to disintegrate with the Imam's demise. They expected the Islamic Republic to be struck with internal differences and to lose the people's support. But you did not allow this to happen. You struck a blow at the mouth of these babbling enemies. Well done. [chants of "God is great"] [passage omitted]

The result of your steadfastness after the deminse of his eminence the imam changed world assessments. Those who sat and waited for the Islamic Republic to be destroyed realized that their anticipation was in vain. Those who thought that the Iranian nation can be terrified or tired, realized that this was in vain. Therefore, today we see America, the leader of mischief and corruption, feeling an extremely deep enmity toward the Iranian nation. The revolution does not come to terms with them in any way; and they do not come to terms with the revolution. [chants of "God is great"]

Apart from the despotic American regime and those who are very strongly dependent on it, the rest of the people in the world who witnessed and saw the situation of our nation are bowing their heads in respect to this nation, extending a hand of friendship. The Iranian nation has shown that with strength and steadfastness the respect of not only nations, but of governments on a world level can be gained.

Our enemies have despaired of their efforts to exert pressures on our nation. This is an extremely great achievement. There are only two points on which the world enemies of Islam have focused their attention and attached their hopes. The Iranian nation should be aware of these two points.

The first point is the issue of unity and solidarity. The enemies who still intend to implement their hostile and sinister objectives toward the revolution and the Islamic system, have attached their hopes to differences. They are afraid of your unity and solidarity. You should be aware of this. This is the first point. The Iranian nation should at no cost lose its unity and solidarity. The officials should know how to treat this immense solidarity. Authors, orators, people who speak from behind tribunes—both public tribunes like the Majles, the radio and television, and more limited tribunes like those in mosques, in hoseyniyehs, and anywhere they address the people—should see to it that their words and their deeds are both in the service of unity and solidarity.

No one, under any label, should make a move that will instigate the people or part of the people to confront each other. No pretext should be accepted. Differences of taste and differences in lines should not lead to differences and schisms among the people. This unity and solidarity which you, the people, displayed during the war, at the onset of the revolution, in your support for the imam, in the demise of the imam, and in all the incidents throughout the past 11 years is your strongest weapon and something which will disappoint your enemies. This is the first point.

The second point on which the enemy has attached its hopes is for Islamic Iran not being able to carry out the country's reconstruction in a worthy way. The enemies are hoping for this. They want the government of the Islamic Republic to fail in making progress in the country's construction, in improving the people's living conditions, in increasing domestic production, in reducing the country's dependence externally, in creating the necessary conditions of an Islamic life for the barefoot, deprived, and destitute people. They do not want all these to happen. They do not want the Islamic government to be able to succeed in carrying out these great tasks. They have attached their hopes to this.

If the Islamic country achieves a good situation with the efforts of you, the people, and with the strong unity that, thank God, exists between you and the government, colonialism will be disarmed. America will be disarmed. The subservient and naive enemies who have tied their eyes to their [colonialism and America] mouths—some of the domestic grouplets and movements—will be disarmed. It is the duty of each and every person to participate, as much as they can and as their duties call for, in the construction of the country. This is the meaning of affection for the Imam.

Everyone should support and stand behind the government. They should reconstruct the destruction caused by the war and by the era of the domination of corruption [reference to shah's regime]. [passage omitted]

If the Iranian nation, with God's help, can help this reconstruction move forward through the unity of word, by preserving the slogans of the revolution and by preserving its hostility and enmity toward the superpowers and the major enemies of this nation, the imam's holy spirit will be gladdened and they will be assisted by the prayers of the Eternal One.

Dear brothers and sisters throughout the country, you who have gathered in all the parts of the country to commemorate your imam and your great teacher, and especially you the immense crowd that has gathered near the tomb of this great man: Know that you will win over America, Israel, and your big and small enemies. [chants of "God is great" and slogans of "Death to America" and "Death to Israel"] Know that the arrogant powers will not be able to destroy this tree of goodness. This auspicious tree—the tree of the Islamic system—has become rooted and has strengthened. The faith of you, the people, and your efforts and belief have made it blossom and the spirituality of the great man—from the very beginning, until today, and forever—will support this immense movement.

We should continue this path with hopes in God and with reliance on God. We are not afraid of the enemy of Islam and the enemy of the revolution. God willing, we will not tire and feel weak in the path of God. The domination of the flimsy materialistic powers will not be able to weaken us in this path and in our steps toward this objective. We see the day before us when Islam will

have been able to grant grandeur to all the Muslims of the world and to have been able to grant them a respectable life. We see the day before us when Islam will be able to cut off the cancerous tumor of Israel from the Islamic body and Islamic homeland. We are looking forward to the day when the Islamic ummah from all the Islamic countries will unite in taking the banner of Islam into their hands and present pure Mohammadan Islam [chants of "God is great"] before the eyes of the world and attract the zeal and affection of people in all parts of the world toward it.

These are our objectives and our path is the same path that was charted by our great imam. And the Iranian nation is accompanied in this long path by the eager hearts of the other Muslim nations. We should preserve our unity in this path and not forget the divine objectives for one moment.

In conclusion, I would like to extend my condolences on this great calamity and on this great day to you, the Iranian nation, and to the other Muslim nations, to all the oppressed, and to the guests who have come to Iran, and I extend once again—with all my heart and affection and with great faith—your and my greetings to the one who is lying in this holy grave. [Koranic verse omitted]

8-9 Million Mourners Visit Shrine

LD0406120990 Tehran IRNA in English 0715 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Tehran, June 4, IRNA—Tehran's Behesht-e Zahra cemetery where the holy shrine of the highly revered and loved Imam Khomeyni is located, is once again turned into an ocean of human beings, gathered from throughout the world and Iran to mourn in the first anniversary of demise of their leader, June 4th.

Monday is the peak day of the week-long mourning ceremonies started Thursday night [31 May]. The massive number of people who have gathered in the shrine is only reminder of the ceremonies held in June 4, 1989 in funeral of the leader of the Islamic revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic.

From early hours of Monday, people have been heading to the shrine on private cars, buses, minibuses and other public transportation means provided for this occasion. Those getting to the shrine are joining the huge numbers who have been there for the past two days holding rituals.

With the streets in the city deserted, heavy traffic is shifted to the roads and highways leading to the shrine. At 9:40 local time (6:10 GMT) traffic jams are reported in a radius of 20-km from the holy shrine and the crowd have encircled the shrine in a radius of 12 kms.

Meanwhile several helicopters are taking the officials and foreign guests to the shrine. The helicopters have completed 120 missions till 8:30 (5:00 GMT). A runway for landing of the helicopters is built next to the shrine. Although a giant parking lot is provided near the shrine, the influx of the pilgrims from all over the country is so massive that those with private cars have to park it far away and walk to the shrine.

Many mobile clinics, police stations, free of charge food and beverage stands and information centers are set up in the area.

In addition to local reporters and photographers, some 200 foreign newsmen and photographers are covering the event.

"The imam was center of attention throughout the world for over ten years and now in the first anniversary of his demise he has attracted tens of foreign reporters to Tehran to report on how committed and faithful his followers are," said an Iranian official in charge of foreign reporters.

Reporters covering the ceremonies from helicopters estimated the number of mourners at the shrine to be round eight to nine million. Similar estimates are given by the pilots on the basis of satellite pictures.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad 'Ali Ansari, secretary of the headquarters in charge of the ceremonies told IRNA that the crowd was more than eight million.

The number reached the peak during the hour-long speech of the leader of the islamic revolution Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i, with more people still heading towards the shrine.

There has been no report of any casualty. Those fainted or received injuries due to pressure of the crowd are transferred to clinics in the area by relief teams. Every minute three to five people, hit by the heat or heart failure are taken to medical centers. At 11:00 hours local time (07:30 hours GMT) temperature was reported to be 30 degrees centigade.

Over 400 medical staff, 300 doctors and 300 ambulances are station in the clinics. Meanwhile five helicopters are standing by to airlift those in critical conditions to hospitals in Tehran.

Architecture of the imam's shrine, a unique combination of traditional and modern architecture in Iran, is the work of Iranian experts, laid out on 60 hectares of land, northwest of Behesht-e Zahra cemetery.

The shrine which includes a golden dome, minarets, parking lot and other facilities is being built by the self-sufficiency department of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC).

Inspired by the imam's statement "if you believe in yourselves, you will succeed," the whole project is carried out by local experts, utilizing domestic resources, said an official in charge of the project.

Two banners with statements of the late imam reading "Today both the West and the East know well that the

only force which could force them to retreat is Isam" and "The Islamic Republic must hold on to its divine ideals and goals under all conditions," hand from the two sides of the shrine's entrance.

Foreign reporters covering the event find the public turn out unbelievable and are impressed by the sentiments displayed by the mourners.

A war disabled told a foreign journalist, "These people have come here because of their love for the late imam, no one has forced them to do so. Still go and report that our love for our leaders has diminished?"

UK's Thatcher Said 'Anxious' To Restore Ties

LD0406174690 Tehran IRNA in English 1642 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] London, June 4, IRNA—The British prime minister, Margaret Thatcher, has tried to please Iran by expressing her "greatest possible respect" for Islam.

She referred to Islam as a "great religion", in the hope that it may help to persuade Iran to talk to Britain, after Tehran severed relations with London in March 1989 over the 'Satanic Verses issue'. Thatcher said she is "anxious" to restore relations with Iran.

The British prime minister added that she knows Muslims are always very concerned about insults to Islam, "in exactly the same way as we are concerned when people insult christianity". She stated that as she regards insults to Christianity as "blasphemous", so she acknowledges that "the same thing happens with the great religion of Islam".

Thatcher was reacting to Iranian senior diplomats' demands which appeared on the front page of Britain's 'SUNDAY TIMES', that Britain should announce that it respects the Islamic religion and its followers, and should denounce any insult to Islam, such as that caused by the Satanic Verses book. This is the condition which Iranian diplomats said should be met, before Iran could talk to the British Government.

Speaking on the BBC's World Service radio on Sunday afternoon, Thatcher appeared to contradict her foreign secretary, Douglas Hurd, since she did not in her comments, offer any clear words of support for Rushdie or his book, The Satanic Verses.

But Hurd, speaking to the 'World Service' from Saudi Arabia, refused to condemn Rushdie, although he also said he has a high respect for Islam.

The UK's foreign secretary, who was on the board of judges who awarded Salman Rushdie the Whitbread Award for The Satanic Verses in 1988, said "I cannot condemn Rushdie for his book", but he added that "I can gladly explain our respect for Islam and our reluctance, our wish not to have any quarrel, dispute, either with Islamic or with the government and people of Iran".

Thatcher, however, urged Muslims not to put "too much stress" on The Satanic Verses. She said Islam and Christianity "can easily survive the comments of a few people who receive great publicity because of their adverse comments".

In an attempt to show the British public that she is still the 'Iron Lady', and that the British stance against Iran is very strong, Thatcher claimed that it was Iran's President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani who "has held out a very significant olive branch" to the UK.

This is the second time that the British prime minister has been forced to state her "respect for Islam". The first time was in March 1989 when she arrived at the offices of the Conservative Party in her North London constituency of Finchley.

In fact it was Hoseyn Musavian, director-general of the European Department of the Iranian Foreign Ministry, who said Iran may be willing to discuss the Satanic Verses affair, provided Britain first makes it clear "that it respects Islam and Muslims and condemns insults to Islam such as those contained in Rushdie's book".

According to last week's 'OBSERVER' newspaper, the British Government has "softened" its stance towards Iran, and is no longer emphasising its previous demands for concessions from Iran, before any direct talks can take place. Iran severed relations with Britain on March 7, 1989 and since then the British have itemised a number of actions which they would like Iran to take before talks can go ahead.

Douglas Hurd, since taking over as foreign secretary last autumn, has declared publicly at least four times that Britain wishes to restore relations with Iran and Foreign Office minister, William Waldegrave, has done so three times.

An Iranian delegation, headed by Musavian, refused to see Britain's assistant deputy foreign minister, Jeremy Greenstock, in Dublin 16 May 1989, who had been sent by Whitehall to try to start negotiations with Iran.

Musavian has denied categorically, however, claims which appeared in the UK's 'SUNDAY TIMES' newspaper this week, that he had somehow implied that the death sentence imposed on Rushdie by an Islamic fatwa from the late Imam Khomeyni last February, could be lifted. "Neither I nor any other Iranian official, or even the government, has the power to revoke the decree," he insisted.

Obstacles to Relations Reviewed

LD0406215690 Tehran in English to Europe 1900 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Subsequent to the interview of the top-ranking official of the Iranian Foreign Ministry last Saturday [2 June], the British prime minister and foreign secretary have set forth some new points in connection with resumption of ties with Iran.

Last Saturday the Iranian Foreign Ministry's director-general for West European affairs had said: Tehran expects that London issue an explicit statement denouncing the insults (?against) Islam, including the insults which exist in the book: The Satanic Verses. The Iranian Foreign Ministry official, pointing out that the decree issued by the late Imam Khomeyni on Salman Rushdie is a religious verdict, stressed that noone can change that decree. He also noted: Iran has been trying to hold direct talks with London within the framework of the resolution passed by the Islamic Consultative Assembly. That resolution has made improvement of ties with Britain subject to clearcut denunciation by the British Government of the insults made against Islam.

As a first official reaction British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher yesterday described the statement of the Iranian Foreign Ministry official as an olive branch that has been offered by Iran to Britain. Thatcher said: Britain will try to resume ties with Iran, but added that she did not have any evidence to (?show) Britain's positive response to Iran's demand for an official condemnation of the book: The Satanic Verses.

The British prime minister, in her comments has attempted to justify within the framework of the freedom of speech and belief the insults shown by Salman Rushdie to debase one billion Muslims. At the same time, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd, in an interview during his visit to Saudi Arabia, expressed his reaction to the statement of the Iranian Foreign Ministry's official and said: [Words indistinct] denounce Rushdie nor his book.

In order to precisely assess the comments of a top official of Iran's Foreign Ministry and response of the British Government officials, it is necessary to refer to London's earlier inclinations for resumption of diplomatic ties with Iran. Some two months ago, in the wake of Iran's philanthropic inclinations for a release of the western hostages held in Lebanon, the British Government brought up the subject on the resumption of its ties with Iran. In this relation, the desire of the British officials for a renewal of these relations was expressed repeatedly, and eventually less than a fortnight ago a member of the British Parliament officially called for the dispatch of a parliamentary delegation to Iran. Political observers in fact conclude from the interview with the top official of Iran's Foreign Ministry as an official response to London's inclinations where he [word indistinct] the conditions, announced earlier, for a resumption of diplomatic relations with Britain, have been restated. In this respect the Iranian Foreign Ministry's top official, stressing that the resolution passed by the Islamic Consultative Assembly for resumption of ties with Britain is (?of significance), added: Iran believes in diplomatic norms and not intervention in the internal affairs of other countries, and consequently expects a similar attitude from other states. He suggested that Britain can include Islam in its existing laws related to prohibition of insults to other religions.

Khamene'i Wants Rushdie Killed by UK Muslims

LD0506121590 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Speech delivered by Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i to Khorasan clergymen and inhabitants on the occasion of the 5 June 1963 Qom uprising and the birth anniversary of Imam Reza—read by announcer]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] His eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i presented a comprehensive analysis on the endeavors of global arrogance to weaken the morale of the world's Muslims, and in the course of this, referring to the divine edict on his highness Imam Khomeyni—may his soul be sanctified—concerning the apostate writer of the despised book, "The Satanic Verses," termed the death sentence against Salman Rushdie as a conclusive Islamic ruling and reminded of the need to carry it out. [passage omitted]

The leader of the Islamic revolution referred to global arrogance's panic in the face of the Iranian nation, and explaining the conspiracy of sensationalizing Imam Khomeyni's edict concerning the apostate author of the dispicable book, "The Satanic Verses," he graciously said: The reaction and counterblow of the imam was so strong that it greatly weakened arrogance's morale, and the sensationalism, accusations, and pressure that apparatuses belonging to arrogance brought to bear spring from this same source. They tried to alter [khadoheh] this steadfast divine edict hut they failed, and they shall continue to fail.

His Highness Ayatollah Khamene'i added: The imam's edict concerning Salman Rushdie is based on divine verses, and just like divine verses, it stands firm and cannot be altered. This issue has an easy way out and there are no knots that cannot be untied: Salman Rushdie is an offender and the divine edict concerning him must be carried out. This offender should be handed over to Britain's Muslims so that the divine edict concerning him is carried out. Salman Rushdie is a creature who according to divine verses and conclusive Islamic edicts has been condemned to punishment, and this edict concerning him must be carried out. [passage omitted]

Mohtashami Commentary on U.S. 'Conspiracy'

NC0406183890 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 22 May 90 p 2

[Political commentary by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin 'Ali Akbar Mohtashami, Tehran Majlis deputy: "Liberalism—the Implementer of U.S. Plots in Iran"]

[Excerpts] A new conspiracy of the United States and the CIA has been disclosed involving the employment of liberals opposed to the revolution and the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and a letter with 90 antinationalist signatories has been sent to the esteemed president. In addition, the various liberal grouplets have carried

out behind-the-scenes provocations. In light of all these, once again the mass media are commenting on the subject of liberalism.

Today, as a result of the deep thinking of the imam (may God's blessings be upon him), his intensive awareness of the foreign agents and his sagacious warnings to ensure the immunity of the Islamic Republic's freedom and independence are becoming clearer than ever before. In order to clarify the roots and dimensions of liberalism we should endeavor to discuss it as best as we can. [passage omitted]

In Iran, liberalism has deep historical roots, which require in-depth study and research into the various parties, organizations, and political groups that existed prior to the victory of the Revolution. Such a study is difficult to incorporate in this article. However, liberalism after the downfall of the shah's regime and the establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran is a more tangible element for people and enlightened individuals.

Even though the very mention of liberalism conjures up a repulsive and unsightly nationalistic, anti-religious image in the mind, its special characteristics and traits, which sanction political and economic liberalism in Iran, pose a threat and danger to the proponents of pure Islam and to the country. These include:

1. Those nationalist laic groups which are secular in nature, such as the Jebhe-ye Melli, Hezb-e Iran, Toilers, Pan-Iranists, Hezb-e Mellat-e Iran, and so on.
2. Nationalist groupings which are ostensibly religious, such as the Nehzat-e Azadi, which are Iranian, Muslim, and legalized.
3. Nationalist groupings with a leftist mask but an American bias, such as the Monafeqin grouplets, the Tudeh Party, the Workers, and so on.
4. The monarchists who have raised the slogan of government on the basis of a referendum.
5. The American-style Islam that is a deviant and eclectic Islam, an Islam of elitism and opulence, an Islam of compromise and humiliation and of abstention from Holy War and struggle, an Islam of the rule of capital and capitalism over the oppressed, an Islam of the pseudoreligious ones and the primitive ones, an Islam of the courtier-like clerics, and an Islam which is segregated from politics.

In a short review, we can summarize the theoretical and practical characteristics of liberalism before and after the revolution as follows:

—The preservation of the monarchical system or the Western capitalist system behind the mask of a republic, a democratic Islamic republic, or just an Islamic republic.
—The attempted maintainance, strengthening, and expansion of relations with the West and the United States.
—Leniency toward the colonialist powers and compromise with the United States and its satellites or, in the words of the imam (may God be pleased with him) compromise with the Archsatan and his progeny.
—Opposition to every kind of revolutionary activity at home and abroad, and opposition to the principle of the export of the revolution.
—Attempts to keep the government confined within its borders and abstention from any Islamic and human activity which would alienate the Western or capitalistic world, in keeping with the thesis of international popularity.

In any case, liberalism manifested itself in multifarious forms. Prior to the victory of the revolution it was the strongest supporter of the perpetuation of the shah's regime, and after the revolution's victory its dossier consisted of the following black deeds:

A. The projection of the system as unstable by creating agitation and regional conflicts within the country, as in Kordestan, Azerbaijan, Torkman Sahra, and so on.
B. Opposition to the referendum of the Islamic Republic.
C. Opposition to the first Assembly of Experts which was entrusted with drawing up the Constitution.
D. Opposition to the occupation of the den of spies by the students who were followers of the imam's line.
E. Opposition to keeping the Americans hostages in custody and the undertaking of efforts for their unconditional release.
F. Opposition to the severance of ties with the United States and efforts for talks and forging ties with the Archsatan.
G. Opposition to jihad and Holy Defense regarding the retrieval of the lands occupied by the Iraqi regime and the initiation of a psychological war within the country, in order to undermine the morale of the combatants by means of the dissemination of announcements, rumors, and interviews with foreign radios.
H. Finally, liberalism is now seeking to obliterate the effects of the revolution and the principles and values of the thought of his eminence the imam; in other words, to efface the revolution and the imam as the first step toward imposing the rule of apostasy and world domination on Islamic Iran by means of plots and compromise with the world-devouring United States, in order that its plots and policies may be implemented.

Weinberger (the former U.S. defense secretary), announced the policy of the world-devouring United States thus:

"The United States has decided to eradicate the Islamic Revolution and to cut off the roots of the Iranian nation." Of course the latest plot by the CIA in employing the nationalistic Muslims and liberals is the first step in implementing this policy in present circumstances.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has no other recourse except firmness and insistence on the principles of the revolution and the clear policy of his eminence the imam in confrontation with the Archsatan by dealing a firm blow to the United States and struggling until victory. This policy is the sole secret of the independence and life of the revolution and the demise of the counterrevolution and the United States. [passage omitted on Koranic verses] With the hope of the victory of the oppressed over the oppressors.

Daily Hails End of Atheism in Soviet Union

LD0206153790 Tehran IRNA in English 1430 GMT 2 Jun 90

[Text] Tehran, June 2, IRNA—A morning Persian daily Saturday hailed the recent ratification of freedom of expression and of parties, and religious activities in the Soviet Union.

'JOMHURI ISLAMI' in its editorial titled: 'Death of Atheism', said that freedom of religious activites could be traced to Mikhail Gorbachev promise to the Iranian delegation which carried Imam Khomeyni's historical epistle to the Soviet leader on January 4, 1989.

In his letter the late imam had invited Gorbachev to study Islam as a substitute for the decadent Communist system, predicting that "henceforth, Marxism should be seen only in the musuems of political history."

In fact, the daily noted, the Soviet leadership is leading a massive anti-Communist drive which has been longed for during the past 70 years by the nations domineered by Marxism.

"The law for freedom of religion in the Soviet Union is an official termination of 'blasphemy' and in reality is the declaration of the death of atheism," it wrote.

"This will be a turning point in the new life of nations under the tyranny of the communist world," the article said and hailed the courage of the Soviet leadership in this regard. It ruled out any other reasons for such a development in the home of communism, other than the "tidal wave" that Imam Khomeyni generated for the revival of religion throughout the world.

The late imam founded a movement in the world whose objective was to cleanse the contemporary world from whatever ungodly tendencies, the article stressed.

It thought it fitting for the 'dawn of freedom' to be announced in Soviet Union on the eve of the first anniversary of the man of God, whose clear vision foresaw the end of the godless Marxist system.

The daily concluded that his proves that Imam Khomeyni is still alive and that the movement he moulded will never be quelled.

Soviet Officals Arrive To Mark Khomeyni's Death

Two Border Areas To Be Opened

LD0106193190 Tehran IRNA in English 1420 GMT 1 Jun 90

[Text] Tabriz, (E. Azarbaijan Prov.), June 1, IRNA—The Iranian border areas of Bilesawar and Jolfa, in this northwestern province, will be open to Soviet Azeri Muslims on Sunday and Monday [3 and 4 June], the provincial governor general office reported today.

The measure was taken in reply to repeated requests by Soviet Muslims to take part in the first anniversary of the passing away of the latter leader of the Islamic revolution Imam Khomeyni.

Thus, those willing can cross the border and attend the commemorative ceremonies on these days, it said.

Meanwhile, another dispatch from Moscow said that thousands of Muslim Azeris have referred to the Iranian consulate office in Baku asking to participate in the commemoration ceremonies of the Imam in Iran.

Although Iran has voiced readiness to accept 1,500 Muslims from the Soviet Azerbaijan, this was not possible because they did not possess passports, said an official at the Iranian consulate in Baku in a contact with IRNA.

Also thousands of more eager Muslims are still waiting for the Soviet officials to arrange their dispatch to Iran.

Republic Figures in Tehran

NC0206083790 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 2 Jun 90

[Text] A group of 42 political and cultural figures from various Soviet republics arrived in Tehran from Moscow last night to participate in ceremonies to mark the anniversary of the demise of Khomeyni, the great leader of the Islamic revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, may God's blessings be upon him.

Among the members of the group are the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] foreign minister, the deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of Tajikistan, the grand mufti of Tajikistan, the deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of Turkmen SSR, and the president of the Executive Committee of the Sociocultural Association of the Kazakh SSR.

Azerbaijanis Arrive Via Border

LD0206174490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Jun 90

[Text] The first group of Soviet Muslims wishing to participate in the ceremonies marking the first anniversary of the demise of his eminence Imam Khomeyni, may God be satisfied with his deeds, entered the Islamic Republic of Iran this evening via the Jolfa border. The religious delegation is being accompanied by the deputy head of the office of Caucasian and Transcaucasian clergy.

According to the report, after repeated requests by the people of the Muslim republics of the Soviet Union to travel to Iran and take part in the ceremonies marking the first anniversary of the demise of his eminence Imam Khomeyni, may God be satisfied with his deeds, on Sunday and Monday, the 13th and 14th of Khordad [3-4 June], the Islamic Republic of Iran's borders, in the regions bordering Soviet Azerbaijan, will be open to that country's Muslims. A high-ranking political delegation from the Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan will also enter

the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran tomorrow via the Astara border to take part in the ceremonies. [Signed] Central News Unit, Tabriz

Va'ezi Meets Muslim Representatives

LD0306180590 Tehran IRNA in English 1544 GMT 3 Jun 90

[Text] Tehran, June 3, IRNA—Deputy chiefs of ministerial councils of the Soviet republics of Tajikistan and Turkmenistan who are in Tehran on the occasion of the first anniversary of Imam Khomeyni's departure met with Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmud Va'ezi here today.

The ranking visitors on behalf of the Muslim peoples of the two republics expressed their condolence to the Iranian people on the occasion, and expressed an interest in establishing direct relations with the Islamic Republic.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry official appreciated the amicable feelings of Soviet Muslims, and noted that Iran does not see any hindrance in the way of closer cultural and scientific relations with the peoples of Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.

Azeri Official Attends Activities

LD0406163490 Tehran IRNA in English 1408 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Astara (Gilan), June 4, IRNA—The epistle of the late leader of the Islamic revolution, sent to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on January 4, 1989, served to bring more freedom for Soviet Muslims, a top Soviet Azerbaijani official said here Monday.

According to Araz Azimov, a foreign affairs official of the Republic of Azerbaijan, "the Soviet Union has always viewed with respect the thoughts and ideas of Imam Khomeyni who ushered in the Islamic revolution."

Azimov is here at the head of a seven-man delegation to participate in the mourning ceremonies on the first anniversary of the departure of Iman Khomeyni.

On his country's role in the implementation of U.N. Resolution 598 which has run into Iraqi procrastination, Azimov said "Moscow will exert utmost efforts at international scenes for full enforcement of the resolution as per the U.N. chief's peace plans."

Moscow hoped, he said, that a durable peace between Iran and Iraq would result in security and tranquility for the region.

Azeris Mourn on Khomeyni's Death Anniversary

LD0406195390 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Acording to the central news unit's report, following the announcement of the Islamic Republic of Iran that it is ready to provide hospitality and the necessary facilities for Muslims of Soviet Azerbaijan seeking to participate in ceremonies marking the first anniversary of demise of Imam Khomeyni—may God accept him to his paradise—a large group of Muslims from Soviet Azerbaijan this morning gathered on the border bank of the Aras River, as well as by the two countries' jointly shared bridge in the Julfa region. At the gathering, they expressed their sympathy and condolences on the occasion of the heart-wrenching passing away of the great leader of the Islamic revolution. They further expressed their sorrow about not having travelled to Iran and not having extensively participated in those ceremonies, due to administrative problems and obstacles.

The same report says, citing remarks made by one of the Islamic Republic of Iran's border guards stationed in Jolfa: At a meeting between Iranian and Soviet border guards, the readiness of the Islamic Republic of Iran to receive 1,000 Soviet Azeri guests daily, and provide facilities for them, was announced.

Joint Position With Syria on 'Zionist' Threats

LD0306180890 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 3 Jun 90

[Text] Tehran, June 3, IRNA—A joint stance against Zionist-imperialistic threats was emphasized by Syrian Minister of Awqaf 'Abd-al-Majid al-Tarablusi and Iran's Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Hoj. Mohammad Khatami during their meeting here Sunday.

"We have always seen Syria standing beside us since the victory of the Islamic revolution.... Today the need for further cooperation is felt all the more," said Khatami.

Tarablusi replied that "cooperation between the two countries is a must because they have a joint enemy."

The Syrian minister of Awqaf (Islamic endowments) is here at the head of a delegation to participate in the mourning ceremonies on the 1st anniverary of Imam Khomeyni's demise.

Hezbollah Motorcyclists Protest 'Arafat Visit

TA0406075990 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Jun 90

[Text] A group of Hezbollah motorcyclists demonstrated in the streets of Tehran on Thursday, 31 May, against PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat. This group called on the government to prevent Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Tehran.

According to reports, one of the speakers at the Friday prayers staged on 1 June also called Yasir 'Arafat a wolf in sheep's clothing.

Rumors circulated at the recent Arab leaders summit in Baghdad claimed that Yasir 'Arafat will visit Tehran to mediate in the dispute between the Islamic Republic and Iraq. In the wake of the concluding resolution of the Baghdad summit and the anti-Iranian position affirmed in this resolution, however, it is unlikely that 'Arafat will visit Tehran. Musavian, director general of the Islamic

Republic Foreign Ministry, has expressed doubt about the possibility of Yasir 'Arafat's visiting Tehran.

Pakistan

Indian 'Confidence-Building' Measures Received

Bhutto, Khan Review 'Communications'

BK0406152990 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto called on President Ghulam Ishaq Khan in Islamabad today. They reviewed in detail the latest Indian communications in connection with creating mutual trust and reducing tension between India and Pakistan. The prime minister also apprised the president of her assessment of the Sindh situation.

Spokesman on Measures

BK0406162790 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Pakistan has received proposals from India which have been described as confidence-building measures. This was stated by a Foreign Office spokesman in Islamabad today while commenting on the Indian press reports that the Indian Government has forwarded certain proposals to Pakistan to ease present tensions. He recalled that on several occasions, the Pakistani prime minister had stressed the need for dialogue between the two countries. The Pakistan Government is seriously considering the Indian proposals, notwithstanding the fact that these proposals do not address the central issues which are the root cause of the current tension.

The spokesman added that Pakistan is trying to determine whether the bilateral implementation of Indian proposals—some of which are under consideration—will provide a sufficient basis for a meaningful and constructive dialogue with India, which would be welcomed by Pakistan. The spokesman said that Indian propaganda on the withdrawal of its troops, especially from the southern area of Sutlej, is a development which needs cautious examination in light of India's overall military attitude toward Pakistan.

The spokesman confirmed that there has been a nominal Indian troop withdrawal from Suratgarh, but he observed that this withdrawal cannot be allowed to shift our attention from a heavy buildup of Indian paramilitary and regular forces in occupied Kashmir and Indian Punjab. Furthermore, Indian formations have been moved from the Eastern Command to northern areas of the Ravi and Chenab Rivers. These forces are far in excess of the normal defensive need, and already many troops are stationed in these areas.

The spokesman said that at present he cannot say anything more on the subject. He added, however, that Pakistan will keep its mind open and will respond positively to any positive action by India to bring about the redeployment of forces, which was proposed by the Pakistani foreign minister to his Indian counterpart in New York in April. He said Pakistan sincerely believes that instead of confronting each other, Pakistan and India should find a permanent solution to the Kashmir problem in accordance with their international commitments.

The spokesman rejected Indian External Affairs Minister I.K. Gujral's allegation that Pakistan has allegedly confessed to international authorities that it has trained and armed terrorists to carry out subversive activities in occupied Kashmir. He described as totally false the allegation which was reiterated by the Indian external affairs minister and broadcast by All India Radio in its domestic and overseas services. Pakistan has neither assisted in any act of terrorism nor has it aided the terrorists, the spokesman further observed.

Officials Say Picture 'Mixed'

BK0506042090 London BBC World Service in English 0215 GMT 5 Jun 90

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Text] There are signs that India and Pakistan may at last be trying to ease the tension that has built up in recent months over Kashmir. Pakistan television reported last night that the Foreign Office in Islamabad would be giving serious consideration to fresh proposals made by India.

Lyce Doucet in Islamabad has been looking at the significance of these developments:

[Begin Lyce Doucet recording] India has described the proposals as confidence-building measures. Foreign Office sources said it was too early to call it a breakthrough, but said it could be the beginning of a thaw. India's suggestions apparently avoid the main cause of the tensions—the situation in Kashmir where Moslem militants are campaigning for independence. Sources say some proposals, like regular contacts between military establishments and advanced notice of exercises, were not new or dramatic. But they say Delhi has put them together in a package and Islamabad plans to respond shortly.

The Foreign Office statement also confirmed that India has pulled back some of its troops in the Indian Punjab and further south, near Pakistan's Sindh Province, which has seen serious ethnic unrest in recent weeks.

However, Foreign Office officials maintain it is still a mixed picture, and point to what they see as India's military buildup in Kashmir. It is like a game of chess, one senior official said. But, he said, the overall picture should soon be clear, allowing Pakistan to judge whether India's offer was substantive.

India's initiative appears to be the most significant since tensions flared a few months ago, arousing international concern over a possible military confrontation. [end recording]

Withdrawal Termed 'Propaganda'

BK0506102390 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] Defense observers in Islamabad have said that India's main strike force is still deployed near the Sindh border and there is no indication that it will withdraw to its original position. They said that reports of the Indian withdrawal of an armored division from Mahajan, some 100 km from Sulaimanke sector, was merely propaganda. The purpose of this propaganda was to show President Bush and President Gorbachev, who were meeting at the superpower summit in Washington, that India loves peace. The observers said that the United States and the USSR through their satellites are fully aware of the Indian Army's movements. They said that Pakistan is fully prepared to face any eventuality. India has not changed its attitude toward Pakistan, and its media and propaganda machinery are fully geared against Pakistan.

The observers pointed out that India is involved in the violence in Sindh. It is trying to deflect world attention from Kashmir through its subversive activities in Sindh. They said that with the appointment of a former director of the Indian intelligence agency—Research and Analysis Wing—as the governor of occupied Kashmir, repression will further intensify in the occupied territories. It will, however, be impossible to suppress the freedom of Kashmiris by depriving them of the promised right to self-determination. The observers said that there have been reports of mass graves of Kashmiri youths who were killed by the Indians. These crimes cannot be hidden from the world forever by expelling foreign correspondents from occupied Kashmir.

Minister Responds to Muhajir Leader's Statement

BK0506100190 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] The interior minister, Mr. Aitzaz Ahsan, has taken serious exceptions to the statement given by the MQM [Muhajir Qaumi Movement] chief, Mr. Altaf Hussain, in which he had said that Muhajirs were today the target of violence. He said that the statement of Mr. Altaf Hussain was to mislead the Urdu-speaking citizens of Sindh and to create misunderstanding between Urdu speaking and non-Urdu speaking communities of Sindh. It should not be forgotten, the minister said, that the government received the second largest number of the Urdu-speaking votes in the province of Sindh. The government has an even-handed approach to all citizens irrespective of political affiliations. The government has arrested the leaders of Jeay Sindh and would not hesitate to arrest anyone else who violates the law.

The government believes that Indian infiltration has taken place in ethnic parties. The ethnic violence and terrorist activities carried out by members of the ethnic parties, including the burning of human beings, is a deliberate conspiracy to destabilize the state of Pakistan. It is the job of all those whose hands are clean not to obstruct the process of law and not to give political patronage to wanted terrorists who have committed heinous crimes.

Sri Lanka

LTTE-Premadasa Peace Talks Held in Colombo 1 Jun

BK0206112890 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 2 Jun 90

[Text] President R. Premadasa received the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] leaders at Sucharita Hall in Colombo yesterday.

The LTTE delegation comprised of Messrs. Gopalasamy Mahendraraja, Anton Balasingham, Yogaratnam Yogi, Mrs. Anton Balasingham, and Mrs. Jaya, a leader of the women's front. Associated with the president was Minister of Justice and Chairman of the Northeast Peace Committee A.C.S. Hameed.

Various political, economic, social, educational, agricultural, and administrative problems in the north and the east were discussed during the three-hour meeting. The delegation told the president that the situation in the north and the east has improved considerably during the last 3 months, since the withdrawal of the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force]. They said that the civil administration was functioning efficiently and that civilian activities in all fields were normal. The LTTE leaders also told the president that there is now a political vacuum in the north and east, which is causing a number of problems to the people in the area. They urged immediate measures to correct the situation. They also requested the president to repeal the sixth amendment, pointing out that it has only helped to divide the country further.

Measures are already underway in this direction.

Mr. Premadasa said that early action would be taken to enable the people of the north and east to choose their representatives in a fair election. The president said the government has already taken some constructive steps to ensure ethnic harmony and understanding and emphasized that it was the key factor for durable peace and prosperity in Sri Lanka.